



**CHESTER
NEW HAMPSHIRE
ANNUAL REPORTS**

**for the Fiscal Year Ending
June 30, 1998**

**Town Elections: May 11, 1999
Town Meeting: May 12, 1999**

SEAL
MAY 11 1999
MAY 12 1999

The Town Report is dedicated with heartfelt appreciation
to the Chester resident and anonymous benefactor
who's generosity will help create new town offices and a
police station in the former Chester School building.
It is this attitude of caring and helping one's townfellows,
in large and simple ways, that make Chester
the special place that it is.

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Town Officers**Moderator**

Michael Scott - 2000

Assistant Moderator - Walt St. Clair

Representative to the General Court

Jon Beaulieu - 2000

Albert W. Hamel - 2000

Selectmen

Andrew L. Hadik, Chairman - 2001

Colin M. Costine - 1999

Charlotte A. Lister - 2000

Administrative Assistant

Margaret M. Neveu

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Barbara L. Gagnon - 1999

Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Shayne Marshall

Treasurer

Pat Sevener - 1999

Deputy Treasurer

Deborah Costine

Cynthia Tunberg

Fire Chief

Stephen Tunberg

Road Agent

Clarence Ware -1999

Chief of Police

Alfred Wagner

Supervisors of the Checklist

Janice Jeans - 1999

Virginia Beaulieu - 2000

Diane Dupont - 2004

Trustees of Trust Funds

Joseph O'Brien - 2000

Library Trustees

Eric C. Nyberg, Chairman - 2001
Dorothy Avery - 1999
Debbie Munson - 1999
Linda Heuer - 2000
Jeff Woodruff - 2000

Great Hill Cemetery Trustees

Steven Childs - 1999
George Noyes - 2000
Joseph Ouwerkerk, Jr. - 2001
Wayne Towle - 2001
Walt St. Clair - 2002

Village Cemetery Trustees

David Hoffman - 1999
_____ - 2000
Robert Jeans, Jr. - 2001

Wilcomb -Townsend Home Fund Trustees

Tina Butterfield - 1999
Catherine Fogg - 2000
Barbara Dolloff - 2001
Isabelle Rand - 2002
Cynthia Tunberg - 2003

Appointments

Budget Advisory Committee

Donald Parnell, Chairman
Bruce Baker
Paul Kretschmer
Judy Wolcott

Building Inspector/Zoning Officer

David Jore

Environmental Compliance Officer

Brad Wamsley

Cable Committee

Lennie Stein, Chairman
Ellen Boda
Margery Godfrey

Richard Godfrey
Hilary Hall
Dave Hardy
Eileen Hardy
R.D. Tilroe

Civil Defense/Emergency Management

Scott St. Clair, Director
John Cadieux, Deputy Director
William Boynton, Deputy Director
Scott Rice - Communications Officer

Conservation Commission

Brad Wamsley, Chairman - 1999
Gregory Lowell, Sec. - 2000
Catherine Arakelian - 2001
David Hardy - 2001
Maureen Lein - 1999
Charles Myette - 2000
Camilla Lockwood - 2002 & Planning Board Rep.
Gladys Nicoll - Honorary Member
Larry Benjamin - Alternate - 1999
Charlotte A. Lister, Selectmen's Rep.

Edward's Mill Project Coordinator

Robert Pike

Exeter River Watershed Reps.

Al Hamel
Cam Lockwood

Forest Fire Warden

Stephen Tunberg

Deputy Fire Wardens

William L. Boynton
Jack Cadieux
Steven W. Child
Scott St. Clair
John T. Coleman
Arthur Dolloff
Bruce McLaughlin
Kevin C. Scott

Health Officer

Darrell Quinn

Historic District Commission Committee

Colin Costine, Sel's Rep.

Anya Bent

Ann Powers

Louise Nutt

Diane Methot - Alternate

Library

Judith Balk - Library Director

Police Department

Alfred J. Wagner, Chief

Alexander Castora, Deputy Chief

Leonard Leclair, Sergeant

William Burke, Sergeant

Kenneth McCarron, Patrolman

Vaughn McGillen, Patrolman

Gerry Repucci, Patrolman

Joseph Deluca, Patrolman

Steven Davis, Patrolman

Police Department Administrative Assistant

Vaughn McGillen

Planning Board

Scott Rice - Chairman - 1999

Richard Snyder - Vice Chairman - 2000

Cynthia J. Robinson - Member/Administrative Assistant - 1999

Evan Sederquest - 2000

Camilla Lockwood - 2001

Stephen Landau - 2001

Carl Morin - Alternate - 1999

William Gregsak - Alternate - 1999

Andrew Hadik - Ex-Officio

Recreation Committee

Greg Lowell - Chairman

Debbie Burke

Linda Royce

Bob Henderson

Charlie Henderson

Recycling/Solid Waste Committee

Anne Pardo, Chairperson/Sec.

Paul Potter, Vice-Chairperson

Andrew L. Hadik, Sel's Representative

Bonnie Healey

Lloyd Healey

Charles Myette

J. R. Stephens

Selectmen's Office - Secretary/Bookkeeper

Ruth Kaste

Janet Boyden

Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

Andrew L. Hadik - 1999

Albert Hamel - 2000

Spring Hill Farm Trustees

Miss Muriel Church

Colin Costine

Rick Murray

Wayne Towle

Brad Wamsley

Strategic Land Protection Committee

David Hardy

Daniel Mullaney

Maureen Lein

Charlotte Lister

Evan Sederquest

Richard Uncles

Welfare Administrator

Margaret M. Neveu

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Billie Maloney - Chairperson - 2000

Cynthia Herman, Vice-Chairman - 1999

Janet Boyden, Sec./Member - 2000

Janice Jeans - 2001

Jean G. Methot - 2001

Steph Landau - Planning Board Rep.- 1999

Honorary Appointments

**Consulting Engineer and Maintenance Supervisor
of the Town Chronometer**

Scott St. Clair

Inspector of Grist Mills, Factories, and Sawmills

Raymond Dolloff

Keeper of the Jacob Chase Horse Block

Robert Nicoll

Keeper of the Town Pound

George Chaperon

Gladys Nichols

Sealer of Weights and Measure

Robert Dolloff

Robert Buelte

Surveyor of Wood, Bark, and Lumber

Leroy Noyes

Town Historian

Evelyn Noyes

Weigher of Grain and Measurer of Hay and Provender

Wayne Towle

Robert Healey

Annual Report of the Board of Selectmen

The past year has been quite lively again for the Board of Selectmen. The most noteworthy event was the recent gift of \$300,000 to refurbish the old school into new Town offices and a new police station. The gift came from an anonymous donor who wished to do something positive for all the members of our community.

The gift is opportune because it will defray everyone's tax burden and take care of our municipal and police space needs for several decades. We are also receiving a wonderful recreation and community center in the bargain. We know we speak for everyone when we offer our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the donor for their generosity!

Many thanks to Jamie Towle and all the other members of the "Concerned Citizens" who attended the many meetings to discuss and research the issue of renovating the old school vs. selling and bonding new construction. Who would have expected the issue would have been resolved in such a manner?

The acquisition of the conservation easement on Dolloff Dairy Farm was another issue that kept us busy. This acquisition was overwhelmingly approved (80%) at last year's Town Meeting. The road to completing the acquisition, however, was long and rocky.

In late September we received official notification that none of the federal funding hoped for would be forthcoming. Because the warrant article authorized negotiation for lesser terms if matching funding were lesser, new terms were negotiated. A special public hearing was then held to review the new terms. 98% of the attendees indicated their support and wish for us to proceed.

During the survey of the property, the acreage of the main parcel was found to be less than expected. Concerned about more changes, the Board long with representatives of the Conservation Commission and the Strategic Land Protection Fund, agreed to table the issue until the next annual Town Meeting. We were then notified the deal could not be held over due to financial obligations. At the same time a grass-roots petition drive delivered 199 signatures urging us to proceed with the acquisition despite the change.

We were encouraged to go ahead and secure the easement for the following reasons: First, the wording of the warrant article authorized us to negotiate lesser terms if matching funds were not received. Second, the ultimate

objective was not just to acquire development rights, but to mitigate taxes by preventing new home construction. Although total acreage had decreased, the quality of the land was found to be able to still support the number of new homes on which the original appraisal was based. Third, the petition drive indicated the public still supported the acquisition. Many thanks to Greg Lowell, Cam Lockwood, Dave Hardy, and all the other folks who helped in completing this acquisition.

Other noteworthy issues include:

We have secured grant payments totaling \$125,000 for defraying the cost of the landfill closure. \$25,000 has arrived as a lump-sum reimbursement, and the remaining \$100,000 will be deducted incrementally from future bond payments.

We have settled a substantial, long-time dispute with a local utility over taxation. Our expert legal counsel in this matter advises us the Town did very well when compared to settlements by other NH towns on the same issue.

Regarding Y2K concerns, the hardware and software systems of the Town Clerk, Tax Collector, and Selectmen's Office have been professionally evaluated for compliance. We feel confident that with the implementation of a few upgrades we will be ready for the year 2000. The Police and Fire Departments have advised us that they will also be prepared.

Town Hall renovations were finalized with a total repainting of the exterior, and roof and gutter repairs. We will be sorry leave this grand old building when we move to new quarters. Future plans for the building include use by the Library, Historical Society, and other organizations.

In closing, we request that if you care about preserving the character of our nice town and have the time, please consider serving on a board or committee. Greater participation eases the burden on those already serving, and certainly strengthens the local democratic processes which we are all so fortunate to enjoy.

The Board of Selectmen

Andrew L. Hadik
Colin M. Costine
Charlotte A. Lister

Statement of Appropriations 1998/1999

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Executive	33,784 TC
Election, Registration & Vital Statistic	24,545 TC
Financial Administration	90,385 TC
Revaluation of Property	2,500 TC
Legal Expense	39,000 TC
Personnel Administration	27,100 TC
Planning and Zoning	26,286
General Government	37,320
Cemeteries	15,175 TC
Insurance	39,700 TC
Advertising and Regional Associations	1,961

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police	214,005
Ambulance	25,000
Fire & Forest Fires	39,000
Bldg. Inspection	30,512
Emergency Management	2,000
Other Public Safety (including Communications)	3,500

HIGHWAYS AND STREET

Highways and Streets	207,015
Bridges	500
Street Lighting	2,575 TC

SANITATION

Solid Waste Disposal	103,096
Solid Waste Clean-up	25,000

HEALTH

Pest Control ACO	2,570
Health Agencies and Hospitals & Administration	12,016

WELFARE

Direct Assistance	9,350
Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	3,789

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Parks and Recreation	9,630
Library	55,900
Patriotic Purposes	150
Other Culture and Recreation	10,800

CONSERVATION

Other Conservation - Conservation Commission	9,000
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DEBT SERVICE

Princ-Long Term Bonds & Notes (Fire Truck/Transfer/Landfill)	104,519
Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes (Fire Trk/Fire St./Landfill)	45,045 TC
Interest on TAN	4,500 TC

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Buildings (Fire Station)	499,000
Improvements Other Than Buildings (Town Pound)	3,500

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

(Reval., Police Cruiser, Hist.)	118,000
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OTHER

Warrant Articles	449,292
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TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$2,327,020
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*From MS-2

Sources of Revenue

TAXES

Land Use Change Tax	12,500
Yield Taxes	4,000
Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	30,300

LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES

Motor Vehicle Permit Fees/Titles	336,000
Building Permits/Driveway Permits	22,500
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees (Dog Licenses/Town Fees)	4,700

FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

COPS Grant & Dolloff Farm	195,000
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FROM STATE

Shared Revenue	16,902
Meals & Rooms Tax Dist	48,043
Highway Block Grant	66,581
Other	40,277

CHARGES FOR SERVICES

Income from Departments	18,000
Other Charges	9,500

MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES

Interest on Investments	53,000
Misc - Other/Rent	40,100

INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN

From Capital Reserve	39,000
Trust and Agency Funds	2,000
Proc. From Long Term Bonds & Notes	499,000

TOTAL SOURCE OF REVENUES**\$1,437,403*****From Revised MS-4**

Summary Inventory of Valuation 1998

Value of Land Only	Acres	Valuation
Current Use	9,062.49	\$403,550
Residential	7,337.44	24,167,550
Commercial/Industrial	48.58	221,850
Total Taxable Land	16,448.51	\$24,792,950
Total Exempt & Non-Taxable (\$744,350)		

Value of Buildings Only

Residential	54,893,800
Manufactured Housing	272,850
Commercial/Industrial	932,000
Total Taxable Buildings	\$56,098,650

Total Exempt & Non-Taxable (\$1,691,250)

Public Utilities

Electric	3,841,850
Total Utilities	\$3,841,850

Valuation Before Exemptions **\$84,733,450**

Exemptions

Blind Exemption	15,000
Elderly Exemption	665,000
Physically Handicapped	6,428
Solar/Windpower Exempt	11,605
School Din/Dorm/Kitchen Exemp	150,000
Current Use Credit % Properties	47,250

Total Dollar Amount of Exemption **\$895,283**

Net Valuation on Which Tax Rate is Computed **\$ 83,838,167**

1998 Tax Rate Calculation

		Tax Rate
Appropriations	2,327,020	
Less: Revenues	1,787,403	
Less: Shared Revenues	1,959	
Add: Overlay	25,011	
Add: War Service Credits	24,350	
Approved Town/City Tax Effort	<u>\$587,019</u>	\$6.99
Due to Local School	3,971,690	
Due to Regional Schools	0	
Less: Shared Revenue	47,078	
Approved School Tax Effort	<u>\$3,924,612</u>	\$46.79
Due to County	203,295	
Less: Shared Revenues	3,919	
Net County Tax Effort	<u>\$199,376</u>	<u>\$2.38</u>
COMBINED TAX RATE		\$56.16

Commitment Analysis

Total Property Taxes Assessed	\$4,711,007
Less: War Service Credit	(24,350)
Add: Village District Commitment	0
Total Property Tax Commitment	<u>\$4,686,657</u>

Proof of Rate

Net Assessed Valuation	Tax Rate	Assessment
\$83,885,467	\$56.16	\$4,711,007

1999 Bond Requirement

Treasurer	92,000
Town Clerk	87,000
Tax Collector	38,000
Trustees of Trust Fund	143,000

Financial Report

For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1998

REVENUES**Revenue from Taxes**

Property Taxes	\$4,379,440
Land Use Change Taxes	54,344
Yield Taxes	4,312
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	<u>56,579</u>
Total	4,494,675

Licenses and Permits

Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	382,136
Building Permits	26,059
Other Licenses, Permits and Fees	<u>5,915</u>
Total	414,110

Revenue from Federal Government

Cops Fast Grant	<u>32,913</u>
	32,913

Revenue from State of New Hampshire

Shared Revenue Block Grant	66,302
Meals and Rooms	33,279
Highway Block Grant	61,567
State and Federal Forest Land Reimb.	126
Other	<u>24,954</u>
Total	186,228

Revenue from Charges of Services

Income from Department	<u>20,219</u>
	20,219

Revenue from Miscellaneous Sources

Interest of Investments	75,277
Rents of Property	10,012
Fines & Forfeits	425
Miscellaneous Sources not Otherwise Classified	<u>20,667</u>
Total	106,381

Interfund Operating Transfers In

Transfers from Trust and Agency Funds	<u>13,038</u>
	13,038

Total Revenues from All Source	5,267,564
Fund Equity (Beginning of the Year)	832,865
Grand Total	<u>\$6,100,429</u>

EXPENDITURES

General Government

Executive	\$30,630
Election, Registration and Vital Statistics	24,082
Financial Administration	97,722
Revaluation of Property	875
Legal Expenses	46,316
Personnel Administration	23,237
Planning and Zoning	22,645
General Government Building	28,282
Cemeteries	13,283
Insurance not Otherwise Allocated	31,932
Advertising and Regional Association	1,893
Other General Government	1,000
Total	<u>\$321,897</u>

Public Safety

Police	188,096
Ambulance	25,000
Fire	37,078
Building Inspection	24,864
Emergency Management	150
Other Public Safety	3,500
Total	<u>\$278,688</u>

Highways and Streets

Highways and Streets	187,044
Street Lighting	2,298
Total	<u>\$189,342</u>

Sanitation

Solid Waste Disposal	82,937
Other Sanitation	10,163
Total	<u>\$93,100</u>

Health

Pest Control	837
Health Agencies and Hospitals	16,094
Total	<u>\$16,931</u>

Welfare

Direct Assistance	5,168
Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	4,097
Total	<u>\$9,265</u>

Culture and Recreation

Parks and Recreation	10,384
Patriotic Purposes	150
Other Culture and Recreation	<u>13,693</u>
Total	\$24,227

Conservation

Other Conservation	<u>1,538</u>
Total	\$1,538

Debt Service

Principal Long Term Bonds & Notes	10,000
Interest on Long Term Bonds & Notes	<u>1,880</u>
Total	\$11,880

Capital Outlay

Land and Improvements	22,038
Machinery, Vehicles and Equipment	23,070
Buildings	<u>2,250</u>
Total	\$47,358

Interfund Operating Transfers Out

Transfers to Special Revenue Funds	<u>49,900</u>
Total	\$49,900

Payments to Other Governments

Taxes Paid to County	209,226
Taxes Paid to School Districts	<u>3,812,700</u>
Total	\$4,021,926

Total Expenditures **\$5,066,052**

Fund Equity (End of Year) **\$1,034,377**

Grand Totals **\$6,100,429**

Balance Sheet

June 30, 1998

ASSETS

	<u>Beginning of Year</u>	<u>End of Year</u>
Current Assets		
Cash and Equivalents	\$2,285,902	\$2,661,140
Taxes Receivable	441,731	475,951
Tax Liens Receivable	151,999	159,635
Accounts Receivable		833
Due From Other Funds	1,348	2,038
Other Current Assets	<u>56,400</u>	<u>56,400</u>
Total Assets	\$ 2,937,380	\$ 3,355,997

LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

	<u>Beginning of Year</u>	<u>End of Year</u>
Current Liabilities		
Warrants and Account Payable		\$18,318
Due to Other Funds	\$22,000	
Deferred Revenue	<u>2,082,515</u>	<u>2,303,302</u>
Total Liabilities	\$2,104,515	\$2,321,620

	<u>Beginning of Year</u>	<u>End of Year</u>
Fund Equity		
Reserve for Encumbrances	\$17,860	\$56,135
Reserve for Special Purposes		40,000
Unreserved Fund Balances	<u>815,005</u>	<u>938,242</u>
Total Fund Equity	\$832,865	\$1,034,377
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$2,937,380	\$3,355,997

Note: Per Audit - Modified Accrual

Comparative Statement of Appropriations

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1998

<u>Title of Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Unexpended</u>	
			<u>Balance</u>	<u>Overdrafts</u>
Executive Office	37,840 TC	30,630	7,210	
Election and Registration	26,225 TC	24,082	2,143	
Financial Administration	81,280 TC	97,722		16,442
Revaluation of Property	2,500 TC	875	1,625	
Judicial and Legal	25,000 TC	46,316		21,316
Personnel Administration	26,000 TC	23,237	2,763	
Planning and Zoning	31,900	22,645	9,255	
General Government Bldg	40,420	28,282	12,138	
Village Cemeteries	11,975 TC	13,283		1,308
Insurance	55,100 TC	31,932	23,168	
Regional Association	2,000	1,893	107	
Other General Govt.		1,000		1,000
Police Department	207,349	188,096	19,253	
Ambulance	25,000	25,000		
Fire Department and FF	37,000	37,078		78
Building Inspection	24,375	24,864		489
Emergency Management	2,000	150	1,850	
Other Public Safety	3,500	3,500		
Highways and Streets	185,900	187,044		1,144
Street Lighting	2,300 TC	2,298	2	
Waste Disposal/Collection	133,020	82,937	50,083	
Other Sanitation	25,000	10,163	14,837	
Pest Control	2,570	837	1,733	
Other Health	16,144	16,094	50	
Welfare	9,050	5,168	3,882	
Welfare- Intergov. Payments	4,097	4,097		
Parks and Recreation	10,510	10,384	126	
Library	49,900	49,900		
Patriotic Purposes	150	150		
Other Culture & Rec.	12,150	13,693		1,543
Conservation Commission	1,300	1,538		238
Princ-Long Term Bonds & Notes	10,000 TC	10,000		
Interest Tax Anticipation Notes	4,500 TC		4,500	
Other Debt Service	1,880 TC	1,880		
Machinery, Vehicles, Equip.	25,000	23,070	1,930	
Improve. Other Than Bldgs	36,010	22,038	13,972	
A/P Candia Road	25,000		25,000	
Buildings		2,250		2,250
Total	\$1,193,945	\$1,044,126	\$195,627	\$45,808

Unexpended Balance of Appropriation = \$149,819

Detailed Statements of Receipts 97/98
(Note: Adjusted at Audit - see Financial Report)

PROPERTY TAX REVENUE - 0

Tax Revenue Curr Year	4,592,962.06
Tax Rev - Prior Year	151,833.95
Tax Overpayments	<u>30,288.83</u>
	\$4,775,084.84

LAND USE CHANGE TAXES - 0

Land Use Taxes Current Year	81,463.00
Land Use Taxes Previous Years	<u>0.00</u>
	\$81,463.00

YIELD TAXES - \$5,000

Yield Taxes Current Year	1,211.81
Yield Taxes Prior Year	<u>786.15</u>
	\$1,997.96

PENALTIES AND INTEREST - \$28,000

Int/Costs on Prop Taxes	56,140.34
Int on Land Use Change Tax	390.13
Int on Late Yield Taxes	<u>48.07</u>
	\$56,578.54

MOTOR VEHICLE PERMIT FEES - \$301,000

Vehicle Permit Fees	381,862.00
Vehicle Title Fees	<u>274.00</u>
	\$382,136.00

BUILDING PERMITS - \$17,500

Building Permits	22,458.50
Driveway Permits	<u>3,600.00</u>
	\$26,058.50

OTHER LICENSES, PERMITS, AND FEES - \$5,500

Dog Licenses	3,758.00
Dog License Fines	338.50
Pistol Permits	305.00
Other Licenses & Permits	<u>3,351.60</u>
	\$7,753.10

FEDERAL REVENUE - \$22,000

Fed Govt - Cops Grant	<u>32,913.00</u>
	\$32,913.00

SHARED REV BLOCK GRANT - \$16,043

Shared Rev Block Grant	<u>66,302.39</u>
	\$66,302.39

STATE FOREST FIRE REIMB -\$0

State Forest Fire Reimbursement	<u>126.43</u>
	\$126.43

REVENUE FROM THE STATE - \$62,900

Highway Block Grant	<u>61,566.54</u>
	\$61,566.54

STATE REVENUE - \$33,243

State Rooms and Meals Tax	<u>33,279.23</u>
	\$33,279.23

OTHER STATE REVENUE - \$0

State 20% TS/LF Grant	<u>24,953.51</u>
	\$24,953.51

REVENUE FROM CHARGES FOR SERVICES - \$12,000

Insurance Report Fees	845.00
Police Special Duty Fees	6,709.00
State Witness Fees	641.14
Planning Board Fees	4,664.60
Zoning Board Fees	1,081.00
Landfill Fees Received	4,529.27
Recreation Department	<u>1,749.00</u>
	\$20,219.01

REV FROM MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES - \$48,000

Rents From Short-Term Use	12.00
Rent From Post Office	9,166.74
Court Fines	425.00
Miscellaneous Revenue - Other/Recreation	15,395.64
Misc Revenue - Copies	251.50
Current Use App Fees	<u>36.96</u>
	\$25,287.84

INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS - \$40,000

Interest on Investments	<u>69,169.76</u>
	\$69,169.76

LIBRARY REIMBURSEMENTS - \$0

Library Reimbursements	<u>37,198.46</u>
	\$37,198.46

CAPITAL RES POLICE CRUISER -\$11,000

Capital Reserve Police Crusier	<u>11,000.00</u>
	\$11,000.00

INTERFUND TRANSFER - \$2,000

Interfund Transfer - Trust	<u>1,348.01</u>
	\$1,348.01

Subtotal	\$5,714,436.12
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Budget Total	\$604,186.00
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OTHER

Tax Anticipation Notes	0.00
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Total Receipts	\$5,714,436.12
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Note: These figures have been adjusted by the Auditor - see MS-5
(Financial Report which is accrued)

Detailed Statement of Payments - 1997/1998

(Adjusted at Audit - see Financial Report)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE - \$37,840

Selectmen Salaries	\$ 5,879.82
Selectmen Telephone	895.51
Selectmen Printing	264.05
Selectmen Dues & Subscriptions	230.92
Selectmen Postage	20.00
Selectmen Advertising	99.01
Selectmen's Misc Expenses	37.77
Admin Asst Salary	17,905.94
Admin Temporary Positions	1,535.88
Admin Postage	960.65
Admin Mileage	108.52
Printing Town Report	2,300.00
Admin Books & Periodicals	<u>392.05</u>
	\$30,630.12

ELECTION & REGISTRATION - \$26,225

Dep Town Clerk Sal & Wage	\$ 1,996.75
Town Clerk Sal & Wages	12,699.96
Town Clerk Telephone	373.23
Town Clerk Off Equip Repair	106.75
Town Clerk Dues Subs & Seminar	73.25
Town Clerk Office Supplies	409.92
Town Clerk Postage	352.26
Town Clerk Mileage	60.23
Town Clerk Books & Periodicals	132.00
Advertising	48.98
Town Clerk Office Equipment	6,106.23
Voters Ballot Clerks	180.00
Voters Supervisor' Salary	787.98
Voter's Printing	299.15
Voter's Office Supplies	5.78
Voter Meals	17.35
Town Meeting Minutes Salary	112.50
Moderator's Salary	<u>320.00</u>
	\$24,082.32

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION - \$81,280

Acctg Salaries and Wages	\$16,894.87
Acctg Temporary Positions	4,828.20
Acctg Computer Support	1,613.60
Acct Bank Services	257.31
Acctg Telephone	572.98
Acctg Office Equip Maint	649.75
Acctg Copier Contract	850.28
Dues & Seminars	321.00
Acctg Office Supplies	4,022.91
Acctg Postage	812.59
Acctg Mileage	218.35
Acctg Recording Charges	735.03
Acctg Off Equip/Maint	490.55
Auditing	4,923.00
Assessing	22,181.40
Dep Tax Coll Sal & Wages	1,513.75
Tax Collector Salaries	12,699.96
Tax Collector Dues & Subscriptions	210.00
Tax Collector General Sup	421.93
Tax Collector Postage	1,957.00
Tax Collector Mileage	13.20
Tax Collector Title	1,500.00
Treasurer's Salary	1,800.00
Misc	<u>166.64</u>
	\$79,654.30

REVALUATION OF PROPERTY - \$2,500

Rev Assessing	<u>\$875.46</u>
	\$875.46

JUDICIAL & LEGAL EXPENSE - \$25,000

Legal Services	<u>\$42,140.61</u>
	\$42,140.61

PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION - \$26,000

Fica/Town Share	\$18,832.71
Medi/Town Share	<u>4,404.73</u>
	\$23,237.44

PLANNING & ZONING - \$21,950

Adm Assist Salaries & Wages	13,125.00
Telephone	529.07

Contracted Services	3,273.03
Printing	1,244.26
Dues Subs & Seminars	76.95
Office Supplies	416.85
Postage	685.50
Recording Charges	412.00
Books & Periodicals	75.00
Advertising	397.06
Misc.	62.16
Office Equipment	<u>150.00</u>
	\$20,446.88

IMPACT FEE & GROWTH ORDIN. - \$6,000\$0.00

\$0.00

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - \$3,950

Adm Assistant Salary	1,460.00
Office Supplies	90.95
Postage	289.89
Books & Periodicals	43.00
Advertising	169.63
Office Equipment	<u>145.00</u>
	\$2,198.47

GENERAL GOV'T BUILDINGS - \$40,420

Custodial Sal & Wages	\$ 5,715.06
Electricity	2,718.04
Heat & Oil	1,881.07
Water	35.00
Repairs & Maintenance	8,106.37
Supplies	1,043.51
Groundskeeping	5,300.00
Equipment/Maintenance	1,593.47
Furniture & Fixtures	193.87
Post Office Maintenance	812.40
Edwards Mill Property	671.00
Elevator	<u>211.75</u>
	\$28,281.54

CEMETERIES - \$11,975

Salaries & Wages	\$12,689.30
Equipment Maintenance	390.65
Gas, Oil, Etc	147.23
Misc	43.80
Equipment	<u>11.98</u>
	\$13,282.96

INSURANCE - \$55,100

NHMA PLIT	\$19,994.00
Workers Compensation	9,652.26
Other	<u>2,285.45</u>
	\$31,931.71

ADVERTISING & REGIONAL ASSOC - \$2,000

Southern NH Plan Comm	<u>\$ 1,893.00</u>
	\$ 1,893.00

POLICE DEPARTMENT - \$207,349

Salary & Wages	\$44,295.60
Computer Support	825.00
Admin Legal	2,812.00
Telephone	5,058.26
Printing	414.00
Dues, Sub & Seminars	1,859.00
Admin Office Supplies	1,350.77
Admin Postage	293.18
Books & Periodicals	976.08
Misc	422.25
Officers Sal & Wages	56,250.59
Clerical Sal & Wages	13,217.25
Radar Repair	90.00
Gas, Oil, Etc	3,470.98
95 Cruiser Repair	2,650.65
95 Cruiser Repair	1,007.62
98 Ford Cruiser	876.89
Equip & Maint Auto	1,752.29
Training Perm Positions	4,017.48
Health Insurance	11,891.70
Retirement	2,946.21
Special Duty	4,291.50
Radio Repair	1,001.20

Uniforms & Equipment	6,400.87
On Call	9,086.29
Training Supplies & Equipment	1,055.90
Crossing Guard	3,227.20
Office Equipment	3,605.00
Court Time	469.30
Office Equipment Maintenance	125.00
Overtime	<u>2,355.95</u>
	\$188,096.01

AMBULANCE - \$25,000

Ambulance Contract	<u>\$ 25,000.00</u>
	\$ 25,000.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT & FOREST FIRES - \$37,000

Admin Telephone	\$ 689.51
Electricity	872.12
Heat & Oil	1,197.04
EMS Service Contract	672.00
Dues, Subs & Seminars	1,014.00
Training & Materials	813.97
Dispatching Service	2,469.00
Office Supplies	101.71
Gas & Oil	659.78
Prolonged Emergencies	4,065.00
Radio Repair & Maint	800.62
Radio Equipment	5,760.95
Uniforms & Equipment	3,118.14
EMS Supplies & Equipment	1,575.15
Comm Pagers	121.70
Repairs - Vehicles	1,420.44
Equipment Vehicles	6,529.25
Medical Services	190.00
Building Maintenance	113.00
FD - Fire Fighting Equipment	40.50
Misc	422.30
Fire Fighting Labor	2,029.70
Fire Fighting Equipment Repair	2,152.46
Fire Fighting Equipment	<u>250.00</u>
	\$37,078.34

BUILDING INSPECTION- \$24,375

Building Insp Salaries & Wages	\$17,338.30
Health Insurance	2,386.44
Telephone	391.62
Electricity	420.52
Dues, Subs & Seminars	306.00
Office Supplies	436.58
Postage	14.77
House Number Expense	852.45
Mileage Reimbursement	633.38
Office Equipment	41.97
Driveway Sal & Wages	870.00
Clerical	<u>1,171.88</u>
	\$24,863.91

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (CIV DEF) - \$2,000

Equipment Repair & Maint	<u>149.50</u>
	\$ 149.50

OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY - \$3,500

Hazmat Mutual Aid	<u>\$ 3,500.00</u>
	\$ 3,500.00

HIGHWAYS & STREETS - \$185,900

Labor	\$ 8,394.47
Drug Testing	50.00
Telephone	417.95
Electricity	138.43
Supplies	558.61
Signs	844.83
Gas & Oil	269.18
Equipment Repair & Maintenance	6,302.99
Equipment Purchase	3,088.62
Misc	215.53
Sand/Gravel	5,939.51
Plowing	32,887.25
Cold Mix	95.55
Culverts	702.20
Salt	13,434.84
Dozer	150.00

Loader	3,400.00
Excavator	3,462.50
Asphalt	77,860.80
Backhoe	775.00
Trucks	14,752.75
Grader	5,387.50
Cold Patch	3,179.29
Tractor	<u>4,486.00</u>
	\$186,793.80

HSB STREET LIGHTING - \$2,300

Street Lighting Electric	<u>\$ 2,297.60</u>
	\$ 2,297.60

WASTE DISPOSAL TRASH - \$133,020

Misc	\$1,431.63
Labor	19,733.64
Telephone - Landfill	334.22
Electric - Landfill	2,815.20
Printing	60.00
Supplies & Equip	751.16
Site Work	1,956.50
Recycling Contract	7,366.73
Haz Waste Collection	502.58
Burn Pile & Compost	1,613.00
Transport & Tipping	43,269.37
Portable Toilet Rental	708.00
NRRA Dues, Subs, Seminars	<u>119.00</u>
	\$ 80,661.03

SOLID WASTE CLEANUP/RECYCLE - \$25,000

Monitoring Wells	7,487.30
Engineering	<u>\$2,676.05</u>
	\$10,163.35

PEST CONTROL - \$2,570

ACO Salaries & Wages	372.75
ACO Telephone	33.60
ACO Vet Services	145.32
ACO Supplies	<u>285.80</u>
	\$837.47

OTHER HEALTH - \$16,144

Center for Life Management	\$ 3,446.00
Hospice & VNA	10,198.00
Caregivers Program	1,200.00
Sexual Assault Services	500.00
A Safe Place	200.00
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	100.00
Son Shine Soup Kitchen	300.00
Aids Response Seacoast	<u>150.00</u>
	\$16,094.00

WELFARE - DIRECT ASSISTANCE - \$9,050

Telephone	\$ 579.64
Medical	50.00
Electricity	1,293.56
Fuel	222.95
Groceries	25.00
Rent	2,500.00
Misc	<u>497.11</u>
	\$ 5,168.26

WELFARE- INTERGOVERNMENTAL PMTS - \$4,097

Community Action Program	\$ 4,021.00
IG Meals on Wheels	<u>76.00</u>
	\$ 4,097.00

PARKS & RECREATION - \$10,510

Salary & Wages	\$6,206.00
Telephone	186.47
Contracted Services	2,486.00
Electricity	551.03
Trash Removal	263.74
Portables	480.00
Supplies & Equipment	<u>210.69</u>
	\$10,383.93

LIBRARY - \$49,900

Chester Public Library	<u>\$49,900.00</u>
	\$49,900.00

PATRIOTIC PURPOSES - \$150

American Legion	<u>\$ 150.00</u>
	\$ 150.00

CABLE TV - \$7,150

Telephone	\$ 284.57
Electricity	840.95
Equipment	<u>7,566.69</u>
	\$8,692.21

CHESTER SENIOR CITIZENS - \$1,500

Chester Senior Citizen	<u>\$1,500.00</u>
	\$1,500.00

TOWN FAIR - \$3,500

Town Fair	<u>\$3,500.00</u>
	\$3,500.00

CONSERVATION - \$1,300

Dues Seminars	\$ 305.00
Miscellaneous	148.50
Spring Hill Farm	<u>1,084.86</u>
	\$ 1,538.36

PRINCIPAL - LONG TERM NOTES - \$10,000

Principal - Fire Truck Bond	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
	\$10,000.00

DEBT INTEREST - TAX ANTICIPATION -\$4,500

Debt Int Tan	<u>0.00</u>
	0.00

OTHER DEBT SERVICE - \$1,880

Fire Truck Bond Interest	<u>\$1,880.00</u>
	\$1,880.00

CO MACHINERY, VEHICLES, EQUIP - \$25,000

Police Cruiser	<u>\$ 23,069.80</u>
	\$ 23,069.80

CO IMPROVEMENTS EXCEPT BUILDINGS - \$53,870

Encumbrance - Em. Elev. 96/97 "Rollover"	1,000.00
Encumbrance - Legal 96/97 "Rollover"	4,175.00
Encumbrance - Solid Waste Dis 96/97 "Rollover"	2,275.96
Encumbrance - PET Repair Church Clock	<u>2,250.00</u>
	\$9,700.96

CONSERVATION FUND (TO \$20,000-fISCAL YR) - \$0

Conservation Fund/Land Use Tax	<u>\$17,565.00</u>
	\$17,565.00

PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS - \$4,021,926

Taxes paid to County	\$ 209,226.00
Payments to School	3,812,700.00
Fees paid to State	<u>1,838.00</u>
	\$4,023,764.00

OTHER WARRANT ARTICLES - \$25,000

A/P Candia Road	<u>\$22,038.25</u>
	\$22,038.25

DISCOUNTS/ABATEMENTS/REFUNDS - 0

Discounts	\$21,817.39
Abatements	6,537.34
Refunds	33,372.56
Taxes Bought by Town	159,581.92
Prior Years Payable	<u>22,000.00</u>
	\$243,309.21

LIBRARY FUND - 0

Library Sal & Wages	\$34,554.96
Library Fica	2,142.38
Library Medi	<u>501.12</u>
	\$37,198.46

TOTAL PAID =\$5,347,645.26 * (computer total)

TOTAL BUDGET = \$5,233,731.00

Note: These figures have been adjusted by the Auditor - see MS-5 (Financial Report-which is Modified Accrual)

Town Clerk's Report**Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1998**

Cash on Hand July 1, 1997	\$	300.00
Receipts: Motor Vehicle Permits - 4,165 and Title Applications		382,136.00
Town Fees: Parking Tickets	\$375.00	
Caine Control	555.00	
Vital Records	996.00	
Misc. Fees	1,425.60	3,351.60
Dog Licenses		3,758.00
Dog Penalties		<u>338.50</u>
Total Receipts		\$389,584.10
Payments to Treasurer		<u>\$389,584.10</u>
Cash On Hand June 30, 1998	\$	300.00

Respectfully Submitted

Barbara L. Gagnon
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Tax Collector's Report

For the Municipality of Chester - Year Ending 6/30/98

	<u>1998 Levy</u>	<u>1997 Levy</u>	<u>1996 Levy</u>
<u>Uncollected Taxes</u>			
<u>Beg. of Year:</u>			
Property Taxes		461,201.45	
Land Use Taxes		9,331.00	
Yield Taxes			959.34
<u>Taxes Committed</u>			
<u>This Year:</u>			
Property Taxes	2,296,333.00	2,344,247.55	
Land Use Change		71,909.00	
Yield Taxes	33.30	4,278.85	
Reconciling Item		1,055.61	
<u>Overpayment:</u>			
Property Taxes	20,933.15	9,355.68	
Interest Collected on			
Delinquent Tax		27,321.14	45.21
<u>Total Debits</u>	\$2,317,299.45	\$2,928,700.28	\$1,004.55
<u>Remitted to Treasurer</u>			
<u>During FY:</u>			
Property Taxes	1,779,648.16	2,792,070.18	
Land Use Change		81,240.00	
Yield Taxes	33.30	1,095.09	959.34
Interest		27,321.14	45.21
Overpayments	20,933.15	9,355.68	
<u>Discounts Allowed:</u>	11,736.85	9,506.87	

Abatements Made:

Property Taxes	2,227.22	4,927.56	
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Uncollected Taxes**-End of Year:**

Property Taxes	502,720.77		
Yield Taxes		3,183.76	

<u>Total Credits</u>	\$2,317,299.45	\$2,928,700.28	\$1,004.55
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Unredeemed Liens Balance at Beg. of Fiscal Yr.		106,114.35	56,124.46
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Liens Executed During Fiscal Yr.	159,581.92		
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Interest & Costs Coll. After Lien Execution	1,054.26	10,927.27	17,473.66
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<u>Total Debits</u>	\$160,636.18	\$117,041.62	\$73,598.12
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Remittance to Treasurer:

Redemptions	33,538.16	62,857.36	55,328.66
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Int./Costs (After Lien Execution	1,054.26	10,927.27	17,473.66
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Liens <u>Deeded</u> to Municipalities	137.26	142.28	136.27
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Unredeemed Liens Bal.End of Year	125,906.50	43,114.71	659.53
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Total Credits	160,636.18	117,041.62	73,598.12
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Barbara L. Gagnon, Tax Collector Dated 7/13/98

Plodzick & Sanderson Professional Association

193 North Main Street, Concord, N.H. 03301 (603)2254-6996

Independent Auditors Report on Financial Presentation

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen
Town of Chester
Chester, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Town of Chester as of and for the year ended June 30, 1998 as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed assets account group which should be included in order to conform with generally accepted accounting principles. As is the case with most municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the Town of Chester has not maintained historical cost records of its fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Chester, as of June 30, 1998, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its nonexpendable trust funds for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Chester taken as a whole. The combining and individual fund financial statements listed as schedules in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Chester. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

The complete audit is available at the Selectmen's Office during office hours; Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. till 12:30 p.m.

August 20, 1998

Plodzick & Sanderson Professional Association

Town of Chester

Town Warrant

and

Town Budget

Chester Budget Advisory Committee Report

We have reviewed the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000.

The proposed “**core budget**” of \$1,173,538 reflects a 6.3% increase in spending over last year’s budget of \$1,103,164. Approximately one half of the increase is due to the anticipated increase in expenditures that will be associated with the move to new facilities. This increase does not take into consideration any warrant article that may be approved during town meeting.

In addition, this budget reflects a decrease in total revenue of \$294, 284.

The Budget Advisory Committee agrees that the proposed increase in the “**core budget**” reflects a reasonable increase in spending for next fiscal year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chester Budget Advisory Committee

Donald Parnell, Chairman

Bruce Baker

Paul Kretschmer

Steve Riley

Judy Wolcott (not present for meeting)

Town Warrant

State of New Hampshire

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Chester, N. H. in the County of Rockingham in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at Stevens Memorial Hall in said Chester on Tuesday, the eleventh of May next, at 10:00 in the forenoon to act on Articles # 1 - # 6. The polls will close at 7:00 p.m.. After the ballots are counted, the meeting is adjourned until Wednesday, May 12, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Chester Elementary School. Articles # 7 - # 37 will be taken up at that time.

Article # 1. To choose all necessary Town Officials for the ensuing year.

Article # 2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows:

Subsection 4.3.3.5 Setback from Wells

Restrict new septic systems from being within 100 feet of any well.

Article # 3. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows:

Section 4.8 - Farming

Amend to require the following of the University of New Hampshire Best Management Practices.

Amend by adding a new subsection 4.8.1 which will prohibit certain medical uses of animals and certain composting activities as a farming practice.

Amend Subsection 5.3.2 - Permitted Uses, specifically 5.3.2.7 by adding “ See Section 4.8 - Farming”

Article # 4. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

Definitions for Section 5.5.5 National Flood Insurance Program

New Subsection 5.5.5.3.9 - Repetitive Loss and

Amended Subsection 5.5.5.3.11 - Substantial Improvement

Article # 5. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

Article 11 - Zoning Board of Adjustment by clarifying the procedure and Time Limit for Appeals and the renumbering of subsections.

Article # 6. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #5 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

To correct typographical errors, number sequencing and reference number changes?

Article # 7. To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, and Committees of Officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

Article # 8. Shall we modify the Elderly Exemptions from property tax in the Town of Chester? The exemptions based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, shall be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$55,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$70,000; for a person 80 years of age or older, \$85,000? To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$35,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$60,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$300,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. (Ballot Vote)

Article # 9. - Shall we adopt the August 1st prior to the setting of the tax rate as the date for filing for an elderly exemption from the property tax under RSA 72:33-b? (Ballot Vote)

Article # 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand and Three Hundred Ninety-Eight Dollars (\$455,398) as may be necessary to defray Town Charges (TC) for the ensuing year. (See TC Budget Figures) (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) for the purchase of the Chester Elementary School, 84 Chester Street, from the Chester School District and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate all terms of such acquisition. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) for renovations to the Chester Elementary School for Municipal use; to be offset by a gift to the Town of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000). (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a lease agreement with White Pines College to rent the Fire House on Chester Street (Map 16 Lot 13); and to further authorize the Selectmen to negotiate all the terms of the agreement. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thirteen Thousand and Five Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$113,530) for General Government: \$31,218 for Planning Board, \$6,875 for Z.B.A., \$73,400 for Government Buildings, and \$2,037 for Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) to be added to the Document Preservation Capital Reserve Fund, established at the May 1997 Town

Meeting, for the purpose of historic document preservation; and to further designate the Selectmen as agents to expend the fund for document preservation. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars (\$12,000): \$2,000 for the upgrading of the C.I.P. Plan that was adopted by the Planning Board in April 1991 and amended in May 1996 and \$10,000 for a Growth Management Ordinance. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 17. To see if the Town will vote to deposit 100% of the revenues collected from the "Land Use Change Tax" pursuant to RSA 79-A into the Conservation Fund, established by the Town Meeting on May 14, 1997 and in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 III as authorized by RSA 79-A:25 II for the preservation and protection of open space (undeveloped land) through the acquisition of conservation easements or title to land and for any associated costs. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000) for the purchase of approximately 55 acres (Map 2 Lot 28-1) from Robert Buelte. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 19. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to convey a conservation easement to the Rockingham Conservation District or other appropriate conservation organization, on the so-called "Natural Area", situated on Map 17-Lot 7; the so-called "Town Forest" located off North Pond Road, on Norton Road, situated on Map 7-Lot 62, Map 7-Lot 63, and Map 8-Lot 13; and the so-called "Exeter River Shore Land", situated on Map 9-Lot 81-40 in order to permanently protect said areas for nature study, recreation, maintaining and improving the town forest, and to enhance and maintain the scenic, wildlife, and open space that are an intrinsic part of Chester's valuable rural character for the benefit of the Town of Chester and its citizens. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate

the sum of Three Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand and One Hundred Dollars (\$332,100) for Public Safety which includes: \$226,775 for the Police Department, \$25,000 for the Ambulance, \$35,500 for the Fire Department, \$4,500 for Forest Fires and Fire Trails, \$1,000 for Emergency Management, \$5,000 for Public Safety, and \$34,325 for the Building Inspector. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 21. To see if the Town will vote to hire an additional full-time Police Officer and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,524 for salary and benefits: to be offset by a federally funded COPS grant (75% matching funds) with the rest to be raised by taxation. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$27,900) to purchase a new Police vehicle and to authorize the withdrawal of Twenty-Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$27,900) from the Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Twelve Dollars (\$25,812) to replace eight (8) thirty year old self contained breathing apparatus. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$21,500) for the purchase of a thermal imaging unit to enable firefighters to locate persons and/or fire in a building under heavy smoke conditions. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Twelve Thousand and Two Hundred Dollars (\$212,200) to defray the expenses of the Highway Department and

Bridges. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 27. To see if the Town will vote to accept as a Class V Highway, Partridge Lane, which runs from Meadow Fox Lane to Jennifer Drive; as shown on a plan entitled "Chester Hills Estates" Phase VI dated December 15, 1998 and recorded as Plan # D-26838. Acceptance shall be conditional on (a) certification by the Planning Board that the road meets all the specifications of the subdivision regulations for roads; and (b) the furnishing of security in a form and amount acceptable to the Board of Selectmen to secure performance of repairs to the road cause by construction vehicles until 80% of the lots have been developed.

Article # 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the re-construction of a portion of Candia Road near the power lines; as recommended by the C.I.P. that was adopted by the Planning Board in April 1991 and amended in May 1996. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 29. To see if the Town will vote to reclassify the portion of Green Road, presently a Class VI road, from Fremont Road to the Raymond Town Line to a Class A Municipal Trail under RSA 231-A. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve Thousand and Eight Hundred Fifty-Seven Dollars (\$12,857) to defray the expenses of the Welfare Department: \$9,250 for Direct Assistance and \$3,607 for Intergovernmental Welfare payments. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 31. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty Five Thousand and Four Hundred Dollars (\$125,400) for Waste Management which includes: \$106,200 for the Municipal Waste Disposal and Recycling and \$19,200 for Landfill Post-closure Monitoring and Reporting. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate

the sum of Fifteen Thousand and Sixteen Dollars (\$15,016) for Town Health which includes: \$2,200 for Pest Control, and \$12,816 for Other Health. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety-One Thousand and One Hundred Seventy-One Dollars (\$91,171) for Culture and Recreation which includes: \$60,880 for the Chester Public Library, \$3,300 for the Cable Committee, \$14,891 for Parks and Recreation Commission, \$4,450 for the Chester Conservation Commission, \$150 for Patriotic Purposes, \$3,500 for the Town Fair, \$2,500 for the Spring Hill Farm Trust, and \$1,500 for Senior Citizens. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 34. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the establishment of a Recreation Revolving Fund under the conditions outlined in RSA 35-B:2, II; and to further authorize the Treasurer of the Town to have custody of all moneys in such fund and to pay out the same only upon the order of the Recreation Commission. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 35. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell surplus equipment at public auction or by sealed bids. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 36. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to allow a discount of 1% on all property taxes paid in full within 20 days after mailing the property tax bills. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0.)

Article # 37. To transact any other business that may legally come before the Town.

Signed this 19th day of April 1999

The Board of Selectmen, Town of Chester
Andrew L. Hadik, Chairman
Colin M. Costine, Selectman
Charlotte A. Lister, Selectwoman

BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF CHESTER, NH

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Fiscal Year from July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000

<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>	<u>Approp. 97/98</u>	<u>Expended 97/98</u>	<u>Approp. 98/99</u>	<u>Appro 99/00</u>	<u>WA#s</u>
Executive	37,840 TC	30,630	33,784 TC	34,679 TC	
Election Registration & Vital St	26,225 TC	24,082	24,545 TC	28,492 TC	
Financial Administration	81,280 TC	97,722	90,385TC	92,777 TC	
Revaluation of Property	2,500	875	2,500 TC	2,500 TC	
Legal Expense	25,000 TC	46,316	39,000 TC	35,001 TC	11
Personnel Administration	26,000 TC	23,237	27,100 TC	27,100 TC	
Planning and Zoning	31,900	22,645	26,286	38,093	14
General Government Building	40,420	28,282	37,320	73,400	14
Cemeteries	11,975 TC	13,283	15,175 TC	18,700 TC	
Insurance	55,100 TC	31,932	39,700 TC	29,315 TC	
Advertising and Regional Asso.	2,000	1,893	1,961	2,037	14
Other		1,000			

<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u>					
Police	207,349	188,096	214,005	226,775	20
Ambulance	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	20
Fire & Forest Fires	37,000	37,078	39,000	40,000	20

Bldg. Inspection	24,375	24,864	30,512	34,325	20
Emergency Mgt.	2,000	150	2,000	1,000	20
Other Public Safety	3,500	3,500	3,500	5,000	20

HIGHWAYS AND STREETS

Highways and Streets	185,900	187,044	207,015	212,200	26
Other Highway/Bridges			500		
Street Lighting	2,300 TC	2,298	2,575 TC	2,700 TC	

SANITATION

Solid Waste Disposal	133,020	82,937	103,096	106,200	31
Other Sanitation Wells/Eng.		10,163			
Solid Waste Cleanup	25,000		25,000	19,200	31

HEALTH

Pest Control (ACO)	2,570	837	2,570	2,200	32
Other Health	16,144	16,094	12,016	12,816	32

WELFARE

Direct Assistance	9,050	5,168	9,350	9,250	30
Intergov. Welfare Payments	4,097	4,097	3,789	3,607	30

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Parks and Recreation	10,510	10,384	9,630	14,891	33
Library	49,900	49,900	55,900	60,880	33
Patriotic Purposes	150	150	150	150	33
Other Culture and Recreation	12,150	13,693	10,800	8,300	33

CONSERVATION

Other Conservation	1,300	1,538	9,000	4,450	33
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SPRING HILL FARM CONSERVATION

Spring Hill Farm Conservation				2,500	33
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DEBT SERVICE

Princ. - Fire Truck Bond	10,000 TC	10,000	10,000 TC	10,270 TC	
Princ. - Transfer/Landfill Bond			94,519 TC	97,010 TC	
Princ. - Fire Station Bond				24,000 TC	
Interest on TAN	4,500 TC		4,500 TC	4,000 TC	
Interest - Fire Station Bond			14,700 TC	22,999 TC	
Interest - Transfer/Landfill Bond			29,265 TC	25,586 TC	
Interest - Fire Truck Bond	1,880 TC	1,880	1,080 TC	270 TC	

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Machine, Veh & Equip (Cruiser)	25,000	23,070		27,900	22
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Improvements Other than Bldgs	36,010	22,038	
Fire Station		499,000	
Town Pound Restoration		3,500	
Building		2,250	
<u>CAPITAL RESERVE</u>			
Police Cruiser		13,000	23
Historic Documents		3,000	15
<u>OTHER</u>			
Candia Road	25,000	20,000	28
Growth Management Ordinance		30,000	16
Update Town CIP		2,000	16
Household Haz Waste Day		20,000	
NHMA Pooled Energy Plan		3,292	
Natural Resource Code Planner		11,000	
Dolloff Farm Dev Rights		360,000	
Buelte Acreage		18,000	18
Fire Dept Airpacks		25,812	24
Fire Dept Thermal Imager		21,500	25
Police Cops Grant		31,524	21
Old C.E.S. Renovation		300,000	12

OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT

To Capital Reserve Fund	13,000		
Cap Revaluation	102,000		
Historic Document Preservation	3,000		
<u>Total Appropriations</u>	\$1,193,945	\$ 1,044,126	\$1,830,409

Revenues

	<u>1997-1998</u> <u>Estim. Rev.</u>	<u>1997-1998</u> <u>Actual Rev</u>	<u>1998-1999</u> <u>Estim. Rev.</u>	<u>1999-2000</u> <u>Est. Rev</u>	<u>WA #'s</u>
<u>Taxes</u>					
Land Use Change Taxes		54,344	12,500	50,000	
Yield Taxes	5,000	4,312	4,000	5,000	
Int. & Penalt. on Del Taxes	28,000	56,579	30,300	35,000	
<u>Licenses, Permits, and Fees</u>					
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	301,000	382,136	336,000	360,000	
Building Permits	17,500	26,059	22,500	25,000	
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	5,500	5,915	4,700	3,950	

From Federal Government

Cops Grant	22,000	32,913	195,000	25,000	21
Emergency Management Assist. Dolloff Farm					

State

Shared Revenue	16,043	66,302	16,902	60,000	
Highway Block Grant	62,900	61,567	66,581	66,296	
State Rooms and Meals Tax	33,243	33,279	48,043	48,043	
State and Federal Land Reimb		126			
Other State		24,954	40,277		
State 20% TS/LF Grant				12,555	
Hazardous Waste Day Reimbursement				500	

Charges for Services

Income form Departments	12,000	20,219	18,000	22,000	
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Miscellaneous Revenues

Rents of Property/Post Office		10,012		10,975	
Fines and Forefeits		425		700	
Health Insurance Reimbursement				4,000	14
Gifts From Nonpublic Sources				300,000	12

Conservation Town Forest Management					10,000
Interest on Investments	40,000	75,277	53,000		65,000
Other Charges	48,000	20,667	9,500		
Trust and Agency Funds	2,000	13,038	2,000		1,200
Other			40,100		10,000

Proceeds from Long Term Notes & Bonds

Fire Station			499,000		
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Capital Reserve

Capital Reserve (Police Cruiser)	11,000		39,000		22
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Total Rev. Credits =	\$604,186	\$888,124	\$1,437,403		1,143,119
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Wilcomb Townsend Trust Fund Annual Report

July 1, 1997 - June 30, 1998

These funds are available for Chester residents 55 years of age or over to help with fuel, medications, or other necessities. Written applications may be made to any Trustee.

7/1/97	Beginning balance	\$ 00.00
	Receipts	<u>7,447.76</u>

Disbursements:

Bank fees	42.00
NH Electric Co-op	250.00
Eastern Propane Gas	250.00
Annual filing fee	50.00
Postage	6.40
Duston Oi	13,086.43
Handicap equipment	<u>3,762.93</u>

Total disbursements	<u>\$7,447.76</u>
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6/30/98	Ending balance	<u>\$ 00.00</u>
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Trustees:

Tina Butterfield	1999
Catherine Fogg	2000
Barbara Dolloff	2001
Isabelle Rand	2002
Cynthia Tunberg	2003

Respectfully Submitted,
Cynthia Tunberg, Treasurer

Report of the Trust Funds of the Town of Chester, New Hampshire

June 30, 1988

Date	Name of Trust Fund	Purpose of Trust Fund	Beginning Balance	Gain/Loss on Securities	Balance End of Year	Balance Beginning	Percent	Amount	Expended	End Balance	Grand Total of Priv/Income
28-May-1918	Village Cemetery Trust	Perpetual care of cemetery	24,634.11		26,634.11	.00	3.05%	2,038.25	2,038.25	.00	24,634.11
13-Dec-1943	Amos Tuck French Trust	Perpetual care French Plot	5,000.00		5,000.00	.00	.84%	430.18	430.18	.00	5,000.00
24-Dec-1946	Great Hill Cemetery Trust	Perpetual care of cemetery	54,892.36		54,892.36	13,125.70	7.06%	4,725.55		17,851.25	72,743.61
01-Feb-1978	Chester Fire Department	Equipment	6,000.00		5,000.00	.00	1.09%	728.03	728.03	.00	5,000.00
07-Oct-1968	Chester Fire Department	Undesignated Fire Dept.									
04-Mar-1983	Chester Fire Department	Undesignated Fire Dept.	109,085.81		109,085.81	.00	10.32%	6,905.75	6,905.75	.00	103,085.81
10-Feb-1910	Chester Public Library	Public	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,134.09	.22%	145.61	145.61	1,134.09	2,134.09
02-Jan-1931	Chester Public Library	Public	339.80		339.80	.00	.15%	99.96	99.96	.00	339.80
09-Jul-1985	Chester Public Library	Public	500.00		500.00	.00	.22%	144.24	144.24	.00	500.00
25-Jan-1988	Chester Public Library	Public	5,000.00		5,000.00	.00	.62%	416.21	416.21	.00	5,000.00
26-Jun-1991	Chester Public Library	Public	500.00		500.00	.00	.22%	144.24	144.24	.00	500.00
24-Jan-1979	Ruth Ray Trust/School and Public Libraries	60% Public	376,278.01		376,278.01	.00	42.67%	28,557.42	28,557.42	.00	376,373.01
24-Apr-1979	Ruth Ray Trust/School and Public Libraries	60% Public	24,462.42	566.84	25,029.26	.00	2.41%	1,614.15	1,614.15	.00	25,029.26
07-Oct-1988	Rhoda A. Murphy Trust	Public	109,824.92		109,824.92	.00	10.46%	7,002.53	7,002.53	.00	109,324.92
30-Mar-1985	Chester Public Library	School Library	5,000.00		5,000.00	.00	2.16%	1,443.14	1,443.14	.00	5,000.00
1915	Wilcomb Home Trust	Town Poor	4,466.98		4,466.98	.00	.59%	393.08	393.08	.00	4,468.98
1927	Lyda A. Newell Trust	Town Poor	13,573.59		13,573.59	.00	1.78%	1,194.47	1,194.47	.00	13,573.59
Feb-1946	Wilcomb-Townsend Home Trust I	Town Poor	18,114.61		18,114.61	.00	2.38%	1,594.08	1,594.08	.00	18,114.61
15-Jul-1960	Wilcomb-Townsend Home Trust I	Town Poor	7,264.21		7,264.21	.00	.96%	639.25	639.25	.00	7,264.21
06-Feb-1946	Wilcomb-Townsend Home Trust II	Town Poor	10,000.00		10,000.00	.00	1.32%	880.00	880.00	.00	10,000.00
14-Mar-1972	Wilcomb-Townsend Home Trust I	Town Poor	5,144.00		5,144.00	.00	.68%	452.67	452.67	.00	5,144.00
01-Feb-1982	Wilcomb-Townsend Home Trust I	Town Poor	3,735.75		3,736.75	.00	.49%	328.74	328.74	.00	3,736.75
09-Feb-1984	Wilcomb-Townsend Home Trust I	Town Poor	21,820.18		21,820.18	.00	2.87%	1,920.17	1,920.17	.00	21,820.18
06-Feb-1963	Wilcomb-Townsend Home Trust I	Town Poor	4,051.54		4,051.54	.00	.53%	356.53	356.53	.00	4,051.54

Report of the Trust Funds of the Town of Chester, New Hampshire

June 30, 1998

Date	Name of Trust Fund	Purpose of Trust Fund	Balance Beginning Year	New Funds Created	Cash Gains or Losses on Securities	Withdrawals	Balance End Year	Balance Beginning Year	Income Percent	Income Amount	Income Expended During Year	Balance End Year	Grand Total of Principals & Incomes
1961	Wilcomb-Townsend Trust II	Town Poor	1,627.01				1,627.01	.00	.00%	1.52	1.52	.00	1,627.01
1970	Wilcomb-Townsend Trust II	Town Poor	1,030.80				1,030.80	.00	.00%	.00	.00	.00	1,030.80
1970	Wilcomb-Townsend Drawing Fund	Town Poor	997.71				997.71	.00	.13%	87.80	87.80	.00	997.73
23-Dec-1991	Chester Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund	Capital Expenditures	24,924.14			11,000.00	13,924.14	2,220.82	1.80%	1,203.43		3,424.25	17,348.39
22-Dec-1991	Chester Police Department Capital Reserve Fund	Capital Expenditures	6,134.10	22,000.00	(182.91)		25,951.59	836.16	2.01%	1,342.27		2,177.43	32,128.62
30-Nov-1989	School Building Fund Capital Reserve Fund	Capital Expenditures	1,000.00				1,000.00	443.74	.07%	50.00		496.74	1,483.74
20-Jan-1990	Property Revaluation	Property Revaluation	30,087.51				30,087.51	5,383.57	2.89%	1,935.07		7,356.64	37,406.15
31-Dec-1996	Dean J. Leighton Trust	Fire Department Purposes	50,000.00				50,000.00	1,201.46		1,822.92		3,024.58	53,024.38
	Chester Fire Department		877,989.56	22,000.00	383.83	11,000.00	835,373.49	24,344.54	100.01%	66,919.58	57,663.26	32,399.40	921,772.89

State Representative Report Rockingham District 10

On 3 November 1998, the Chester and Fremont voters of Rockingham County District 10 elected me as their Representative to the General Court in Concord. This is a new experience for me; I consider it an honor and a privilege to serve all of you. I have been assigned to the Executive Departments and Administration Committee.

The Chairman of the Rockingham County Delegation has assigned me to the Rockingham County Jail sub-committee. I am not sure if there is a message to be found in this assignment, but I assure you, I plan to remain outside the detention area!

In order to better serve **YOU**, I ask that you not hesitate to contact me about your thoughts and concerns. My mailing address is 71 Haverhill Road, Chester NH 03036-4207. My phone number is 887-3154. My e-mail address is AWHamel@aol.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Albert W. Hamel, Representative
Rockingham District 10

State Representative Report Rockingham District 11

The 1998 session of the New Hampshire Legislature began on January 6 and ran through June 18. An additional two days of attendance in Concord was required for discussions on the Claremont issue in September.

A total of 1050 Senate and House bills were introduced during the 1998 session. The Legislature passed 397 bills and put 63 bills into interim study. A reduction of bills assigned to my EDA committee allowed me to reduce my attendance in Concord to the normal three days a week cycle.

House Bill #1244 relative to collusive bidding at auctions, which I sponsored, was passed by both the House and Senate, signed into law by the Governor, and became effective January 1, 1999. This bill changes the definition of the existing law passed in 1867 and increases the criminal penalty for persons found guilty of Collusive bidding. This legislation is designed to protect the Citizens of this State from the illegal practices being used by a few dishonest auctioneers.

On November 3 the voters of Rockingham County District 11 (Chester, Danville, Fremont and Sandown) gave me their support for another two years as their Representative to the General Court in Concord. I thank you for this honor and will continue those policies that I have practiced in my previous six years as your Representative.

On December 9 the Rockingham County Delegation of Representatives elected me as Chairman of the Executive Board of the County. This board is responsible to oversee the budget and spending of the taxpayers' money at Rockingham County.

My job is made easier when you are willing to share your thoughts and ideas with me. I can be reached by phone at 483-8792 or you can write to me at 157 Smith Road, Chester NH 03036-4030.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jon P. Beaulieu, Representative
Rockingham District 11

Zoning Board of Adjustment

In the past year, this Board has continued to perform our role of addressing appeals from administrative decisions, and reviewing applications for zoning variances and special exceptions.

This Board strives to exercise proper and impartial judgment in all matters coming before us, taking into consideration the best interests of the Town of Chester and the needs of the individual.

At the same time we are guided by the intent and spirit of the Zoning Ordinance. We must take into consideration the impact that the individuals request for zoning relief will have on other property owners and to the public as well. The most difficult decision is to alleviate an injustice or hardship without granting an illegal variance.

Due to the increase in applications this year and the projected increase next year, our budget for 99-00 has almost doubled. The amount of time required to research, process, notice, and perform the required paperwork has greatly increased our Administrative Assistant's budget for next year.

I would like to thank Janet Boyden, Administrative Assistant to the Zoning Board for her dedication to excellence in keeping this Board running smoothly and efficiently.

I would also like to thank the following Board Members for the unselfish contribution of their valuable time to the service of their community: Janice Jeans, Jean Methot, Cynthia Herman, Steph Landau (Planning Board Rep), and Janet Boyden.

Respectfully submitted,
Billie Maloney, Chairperson Z.B.A.

Report of the Chester Public Library

Why is there a rocket in Warner, NH? What is red tide? What is this strange mushroom I found in my yard & is it edible? I have my own computer at home but am not old enough to use the library computer-why? These are just a few of the daily questions we answer at the Chester Public Library. In this fast-changing world, the Library combines answers & help from books & the internet. We try for a good balance of the two & welcome any suggestions you may have. Our staff is CROSS-trained to help you in any section of the library & this year attended many new workshops offered by the State Library-the latest was "Keeping Our Children Safe."

Our programs continue as usual-Great Books, Summer Reading, Chester Book Club, the Big Cheese, Mardi Gras, Children's and National Bookweeks, Fiddler's Green Flower Workshops, 4th Grade Skills Workshop, visits from the 3rd, 7th & 8th grades and Pre-School & Kindergarten Classes, Col. Benton's presentation of a new 1793 flag, and many more. This year we have added Pre-School Story Hours led by Rhonda Woodward. Barbara King has begun Knitting Classes with the proceeds going to the Library. We have received grants from Microsoft(thank you ,Trustee Deb Munson) and The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation for Children's Literature.

We are once again grateful to the Friends of the Library for their support-monetary & moral & their wonderful story hours. Their "Country Craft Days" is always successful and fun. The Friends and the Trustees of the Library provide us with the following passes:

Museum of Fine Arts-Boston
New England Aquarium-Boston
The Met-Londonderry
Currier Gallery of Art-Manchester
Christa McAullife Planetarium-Concord
Shaker Village-Canterbury

Many thanks to our Board of Trustees:

Dorothy Avery
Linda Heuer
Deb Munson
Eric Nyberg
Jeff Woodruff

Judy Balk,
Library Director

Chester Public Library

Cash Flow Report

<u>Income</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Interest	\$ 27,000.00	
Investment Portfolio	\$ 2,500.00	
Town Appropriation	\$ 49,900.00	
Total	\$ 79,400.00	\$ 87,305.04
<u>Expenses</u>		
Books	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 18,230.79
Other Media	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,340.70
Subscriptions	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,298.39
Dues	\$ 150.00	\$ 45.00
Misc	\$ 500.00	\$ 622.47
Postage	\$ 450.00	\$ 445.69
Library Supplies	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,209.65
Telephone	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,057.69
Travel	\$ 350.00	\$ 42.73
Utilities	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,870.50
Education	\$ 100.00	\$ 80.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,165.51
Computer Supplies	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,498.73
Book Reviews	\$ 200.00	\$ 416.29
Building Maintenance	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 10,859.74
Custodial Supplies	\$ 100.00	\$ 44.63
Special Events	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,367.63
Trustees Purchases	\$ 5,068.10	\$ 4,454.07
Building Fund		
Wages	\$ 39,681.90	\$ 37,198.46
Total	\$ 79,400.00	\$ 89,248.67
Less Net Income/Remaining Budget		\$ 1,943.63
Total Revenues		\$ 87,305.04

Planning Board

Calendar year 1998 was a busy year for the Planning Board. The Board has approved ten (10) subdivision applications totaling forty (40) new lots, as well as reviewing three (3) site plan applications. The site plans were for the new elementary school, fire station and a telecommunications tower. The site plan for the tower was the first ever received under the Telecommunications Ordinance, and this review opened up a new understanding of regulations which govern the airwaves.

Last year you were told the Planning Board would be seeking recommendations from a professional planner regarding a Growth Management Ordinance. The Board contacted three (3) professional planners, all of whom opined that Chester is not at a point of "crisis" with the town's infrastructure, which is what is needed to legally support a Growth Management Ordinance. Their advice was to look at managing growth by updating our existing ordinances and regulations.

The Board has taken their advice and we have rewritten our Excavation Regulations, are currently rewriting our Site Plan Review Regulations, and amending our Subdivision Regulations. However, the Board is also exploring the development of a Growth Management Ordinance which would be ready to enact should the growth rate reach an "above average" number (4% annually is average). Determining and legally supporting this "above average" number will require significant work by a professional planner.

Issues coming before the Board are becoming more complex, both legally and technically. In response to demands of developers and attorneys, the burden is increasingly on the Planning Board to provide supporting documentation for Board decisions.

The fire station and elementary school site plans provided the Planning Board with the experience of reviewing "commercial" buildings, and the more complicated elements of "commercial" development which are not normally seen in subdivisions.

Something the Planning Board has never shown in our past reports is the revenue which we generate to help defray some of the costs of operating the Planning Board Office. In 1998, the Planning Board generated \$17,178.55.

Part of the Board's responsibility, when looking at a subdivision plan, is to determine if the added traffic from the new subdivision will create a traffic safety problem for the road where the subdivision is taking place. If a problem is identified, the Board has a right to ask for "off-site improvement money" from the developer. Currently, the Planning Board has \$27,750.60 in a "Special Account" and an anticipated \$27,000.00 from recently approved subdivisions to help defray the cost of upgrading town roads. This money is

earmarked for Candia Road, Lane Road, Wells Village Road, Old Sandown Road, and North Pond Road.

The Planning Board has formed a subcommittee to investigate the possibility of off-setting taxes by expanding the town's commercial zone. Anyone interested in being a member of this subcommittee should contact the Planning Board Office during regular business hours.

The Planning Board is proposing the following zoning amendments this year:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

Subsection 4.3.4.5 Setback from Wells

Restrict new septic systems from being within 100 feet of any well.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

Section 4.8 - Farming

Amend to require the following of the University of New Hampshire Best Management Practice.

Amend by adding a new subsection 4.8.1 which will prohibit certain medical uses of animals and composting activities as a farming practice.

Amend Subsection 5.3.2 - Permitted Uses, specifically 5.3.2.7 by adding "See Section 4.8 - Farming".

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

Definitions for Section 5.5.5 National Flood Insurance Program

New Subsection 5.5.5.3.9 - Repetitive Loss and

Amend Subsection 5.5.5.3.11 - Substantial Improvement

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

Article 11 - Zoning Board of Adjustment by clarifying the procedure and Time Limit for Appeals and the renumbering of subsections.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #5 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

To correct typographical errors, number sequencing and reference number changes?

The Planning Board asks that you

Please vote “YES” on the above proposed zoning amendments.

Copies of any of these amendments are available in the Town Clerk's Office, Board of Selectmen's Office and the Planning Board Office during regular business hours.

The Board welcomes any questions and input regarding its regulations. The Board meets on the first, second and fourth Wednesday of the month in the Town Hall starting at 7:30 P.M. Anyone interested in becoming a Planning Board member should contact the Board of Selectmen's Office or attend a Planning Board meeting.

The Planning Board has office hours on Tuesday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (the building closes at 4:00 P.M.) and Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (the building closes at 12:30 P.M.) in the Planning and Zoning Office in Town Hall. The office telephone number is 887-5629. If this schedule changes, a notice will be posted outside Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Chester Planning Board

Scott Rice, Chairman
Richard Snyder, Vice Chairman
Cynthia J. Robinson, Administrative Assistant
Stephen Landau
Evan Sederquest
Camilla Lockwood
Carl Morin, Alternate
William Gregsak, Alternate
Andrew Hadik, Ex-Officio

Building Inspector's Report

With one-hundred eighty-three home improvement permits, forty-five new single family home permits, one replacement home permit, two commercial building permits and one commercial renovation permit issued, for a total of two-hundred thirty-two, made 1998 an extremely active and busy building year.

Total revenue generated from building permits amounted to twenty-seven thousand ninety-eight dollars and forty-seven cents (\$27,098.47).

New Residential Home Permits Issued 1998

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tax Map/Lot</u>	<u>Street</u>
Vista Home Inc.	011-014-007	Smith Road
Lamphere Construction Inc.	008-070-004	Crawford Road
A. Hunt	007-040-002	Candia Road
G. Wilder	002-069-001	Haverhill Road
M. Gregor	009-081-059	Meadow Fox Lane
J. Caveretta	001-031-004	Harantis Lake Road
M. Santos	001-031-005	Harantis Lake Road
W. Sanderson	002-085-001	Haverhill Road
Lamphere Construction Inc.	008-070-003	Crawford Road
Lamphere Construction Inc.	008-070-006	Crawford Road
I. Walsh	004-050-000	Chester Road
C. Fusillo	006-014-001	Deerwood Hollow
Delridge Realty	009-081-007	Shepard Home Road
D. Dantos	009-081-066	Meadow Fox Lane
J. Brown	011-055-001	Lane Road
R. Reynolds	009-081-068	Meadow Fox Lane
R. Leavitt	007-041-003	Candia Road
Lamphere Construction Inc.	008-070-005	Crawford Road
J. Donigian	009-004-013	Raven Drive
R. Desisto	009-081-060	Eagle Crest Drive
P. Guazdauskas	002-028-020	Town Farm Road
J. Neal	009-081-067	Meadow Fox Lane
B. Remillard	007-056-000	North Pond Road
R. Desisto	009-081-073	Meadow Fox Lane
J. Nardozzia	002-028-012-001	Town Farm Road

G & D Realty Trust	011-044-000	Lane Road
D. Cormier	009-099-004	Hale True Road
E. Howard	011-041-003	Shattigee Road
G. Abdallah	005-120-005	North Pond Road
H. Durette	009-081-075	Partridge Lane
F. Longo	001-031-003	Harantis Lake Road
Formula Development Corp.	005-102-014	Red Squirrel Lane
Formula Development Corp.	005-102-028	Red Squirrel Lane
Formula Development Corp.	005-102-021	Red Squirrel Lane
Formula Development Corp.	005-102-019	Red Squirrel Lane
Formula Development Corp.	005-102-018	Red Squirrel Lane
Formula Development Corp.	005-102-017	Red Squirrel Lane
Formula Development Corp.	005-102-015	Red Squirrel Lane
Formula Development Corp.	005-102-022	Red Squirrel Lane
Formula Development Corp.	005-102-029	Red Squirrel Lane
Formula Development Corp.	005-102-016	Red Squirrel Lane
Lamphere Construction Inc.	011-007-005	Candia Road
R. Desisto	009-081-079	Partridge Lane
F. Lamy	002-020-000	Town Farm Road
Chesterbrook Corp.	007-048-001 Unit 40	Lady Slipper Lane

Residential Replacement Permit

D. Gillen	005-115-001	Deep Hole Road
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Commercial Permits

Town of Chester	013-005-000	Dump Road
Town of Chester	05-019-000	School Street

Commercial Renovation

Chester Hardware	016-009-000	Chester Street
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1998 Residential Home Improvement Permits

11 - Additions
 4 - Barns
 4 - Chimneys
 7 - Decks
 38 - Electrical

- 1 - Fire Damage Repair
 - 10 - Garages
- 19 - Heating Systems
- 7 - Home Occupations
 - 5 - Miscellaneous
 - 10 - Porches
 - 15 - Plumbing
 - 10 - Renovations
- 17 - Septic Replacements
- 11 - Swimming Pools
 - 11 - Sheds
- 3 - Razed Buildings

Reminder

Building permits are required before beginning any construction, alterations or repairs other than ordinary maintenance. If you are uncertain if a building permit is necessary, call the Building Inspector's office at 887-5552.

Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday 8 a.m.-12 noon

Friday 10:30 a.m.-12 noon

Inspections conducted after 12 noon
on Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Respectfully submitted,

David S. Jore, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer

Highway Report

July 10, 1997 - February 20, 1999

Culverts were replaced on Candia, Old Sandown, Smith, and Wells Village Roads. All culverts were cleaned of debris. Shoulder work was done on Shepherd Home, Hanson, Fremont, Tenney, and Old Sandown Roads. All roadsides were mowed and brush was removed. Dead trees were cut down and removed from the road sides on Fremont, Candia, Old Sandown, and Wason Roads. All dirt roads were graveled, graded, and raked as needed. The Highway Department installed road signs and house numbers where needed through out the town.

The following roads were shimmed and paved:

Fremont Road (from Pheasant Run to Town line)

North Pond Road (7/10 of a mile)

Wells Village Road (5/10 of a mile)

Capital improvement money was spent to complete the following Capital Improvement Projects. Candia Road was shimmed, paved and the shoulders were filled with 1-1/2 run gravel. Stumps were removed from the end of Old Sandown Road where it intersects with Route 121. The intersection was redesigned and paved. The telephone pole at the end of Towle Road where it intersects with Fremont Road was relocated so the intersection could be rebuilt and re-paved. A dry catch basin was installed and that area on Carkin Road was re-paved.

During the Winter of 98/99 the following materials were used:

425 tons of salt

3000 yards of sand

These materials were used on all town roads. The Highway Department also used these on the parking lots and driveways of the Post Office, Town Hall, the road to the Transfer Station, and Chester Elementary School. Even with less snow this year we experienced many days of freezing rain and we needed to use more sand and salt on the roads. The Highway Department kept a supply of sand near the center of town for all resident's to use on their walks and driveways. Thanks to all who helped this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Clarence P. Ware, Road Agent

Highway Safety Committee Report

The Highway Safety Committee continues to meet on the second Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. in the Conference Room of the Chester Police Department.

Some of the issues discussed and/or reviewed:

The Board of Selectmen as requested by the Highway Safety Committee authorized DuBois & King to conduct a survey of existing town roads regarding the appropriate speed limits.

The Committee was asked by the Board of Selectmen to provide guidance on three issues relating to the new school. In question is the possibility of a sidewalk along Route 102 from the intersection to the school, placement of school warning lights and whether a street light is needed at the intersection of School Street and Route 102.

Highway Safety Committee members continue to participate in the school bus evacuation drills which are held throughout the year. The Committee asked the Police Department to investigate the traffic congestion caused by parents and children on Fremont Road at Jennifer Drive and Pheasant Run Drive while awaiting their school bus.

The Committee applied to the State Highway Safety Agency for a 50/50 grant to purchase a radar display unit. The town's portion of this purchase was provided by individual donations. The radar unit will be available by Spring.

The Chester Congregational/Baptist Church held their annual "Blessing of the Pets" on the Mossman property. Recently, the Committee has been informed by the church that they wish to change the location for this event. The "Blessing of the Bikes" was also held without incident. This event will also be relocated.

Committee members have invited the newly elected Chester Representative, Albert Hamel, to join our committee.

The Planning Board sends developers to the Highway Safety Committee looking for input to their particular projects.

Future Project

1. To develop a “Mission Statement” for the Committee.

The Highway Safety Committee is made up of volunteers, appointed by the Board of Selectmen to provide a conduit to the Board of Selectmen’s Office for highway safety related issues.

The Highway Safety Committee would like to remind residents that all meetings are open to the public and all are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Chester Highway Safety Committee

Chief Alfred Wagner, Police Department
Chief Stephen Tunberg, Fire Department
Jon Beaulieu, State Representative
Charlotte Lister, Selectwoman
Cynthia J. Robinson, Planning Board
Clarence Ware, Road Agent

Public Members

Col. Richardson D. Benton
George Noyes

Chester Police Department

The Chester Police Department Officers have recorded some 3,435 incidents in 1998. An incident is any call for service or self generated action.

There has been a noticeable increase in traffic throughout our community. This is created by the growth in our neighboring communities as well as our own growth here in Chester.

Household alarm systems continue to be something of a problem, sometimes causing the Police to be called to a residence several times before the systems are repaired.

House numbering allows all emergency services as well as friends and relatives to locate your house without delay. If your house number is missing, please replace the number in kind. There is a Town Ordinance in place that creates penalties for property owners not displaying their house numbers as directed.

In 1998 the Chester Police Department became a part of the Law Enforcement Community that maintains Automatic Emergency Defibrillators to assist those in need. It is our hope that these A.E.D.s are not put to use.

The Chester Police Department members work at staying current with Laws, old and new as well as keeping up with various Law Court Rulings that affect our community.

We thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Alfred J. Wagner, Chief of Police

Alexander "Buck" Castora, Deputy Chief

Vaughn McGillen, Patrolman

Leonard Leclair, Sergeant

Gerry Reppucci, Patrolman

William Burke, Sergeant

Joseph Deluca, Patrolman

Kenneth McCarron, Patrolman

Steve Davis, Patrolman

Vaughn M. McGillen, Administrative Assistant

Telephone:

9 - 1 - 1

887-3229

887-2080

887-2090

EMERGENCY

All Calls For Service

Unattended Business Line

Animal Control Answering Machine

Highlights Of Calendar Year Ending December 1998

27	Burglary Complaints	116	Motor Vehicle Complaints
23	Theft Complaints	1	Unattended/Untimely Death
7	Motor Vehicle Theft Complaints	75	Suspicious Person/Act Complaints
13	Simple Assault / Threat Complaints	221	Assist Other Police Departments
1	Aggravated Assault Complaints	8	OHRV / Fish & Game Complaints
2	Stolen Property Complaints	6	Illegal Dumping Complaints
64	Criminal Mischief Complaints	183	Alarm Activations
2	Weapons Offense Complaints	131	Police Department Information
2	Sex Offenses Reports	3	Littering Reports
3	Drug Offenses Reports	1	Illegal Burn Complaint
54	Domestic Reports	94	Assist Fire/Rescue Calls
3	D.W.I. Reports	10	Criminal Trespass Reports
4	Liquor Offense Reports	54	Paperwork Services
4	Protective Custody Reports	201	Animal Control Complaints
12	Disorderly Conduct Complaints	18	Harassment Complaints
11	Missing Persons Complaints	273	Aide To Public Situation
70	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1069	Motor Vehicle Warnings / Citations
156	Vacation Notices	53	Pistol Permit Applications

Fire Department Report

This year is, once again, proving to be an eventful one. The new station is moving along after a slow start. I know that I am looking forward to moving to our new quarters and we “thank” the people of Chester that supported us and funded the fire station.

During this past year, we responded to one hundred eighty one incidents, which is only two more than the previous year. More significantly, we had no structure fires and no chimney fires. This is, at least in part, due to your efforts at fire safety and prevention and we appreciate those efforts. The area of fire safety that needs to be addressed is brush fires. We had a significant increase in that area which means that we must renew our efforts at preventing these fires. Remember, when in the woods do not discard smoking materials without making sure that they are out. Make sure that your OHRV is equipped with a spark arrester in good working order before heading into the woods. When cleaning out your fireplace or wood stove, place the ashes in a covered metal container outside of any building. Obtain a written permit before kindling any fire. When there is complete snow cover check by phone for permission to burn. The people to call and their numbers are listed on the back page of the Town Report.

We would like to remind you to maintain your smoke detectors and alarms and remember to change the batteries regularly. If your house is unoccupied, consider a monitored alarm system. This would provide the fire department with a more timely notification. Those of you who have a monitored alarm system should designate a local key holder and notify your alarm company of their identity so that a timely evaluation of your property can be made. Another item that helps with a timely response is a properly placed street number. Install your reflective numbers on a contrasting background so that they face the direction from which you receive emergency services and maintain them. They should be located at the end of your driveway on the same side of the street. The driveway that they indicate should be cleared of snow and ice and maintained to accommodate a large truck.

We have been fortunate to have some new people come and join our ranks but we still have some slots to fill. Our task is a demanding one but if you think that you might be interested, come and talk to us. and talk to us.

The last item on the list is the fact that we still have people calling

the wrong number. **IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY WHETHER IT BE FIRE, POLICE OR MEDICAL, THE NUMBER IS 911!**

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Tunberg, Chief, Chester Volunteer Fire Department

Call Summary - 1998

EMS (Emergency Medical Services):

Medical*	79
MVA (Motor Vehicle Accidents)	18
TOTAL EMS	97

FIRE:

Alarm Activations	36
Trees/Wires Down	9
Vehicle	2
Brush	8
Smoke Conditions	4
Service Calls	4
Missing Person Search I	
Miscellaneous	2
"Flight for Life"	1

Mutual Aid

Auburn	3
Candia	4
Derry	6
East Derry	1
Londonderry	1
Raymond	1
Sandown	1

TOTAL FIRE 84

Total Calls in 1998 181

*Includes 2 medical helicopter transports

Report of Town Forest Fire Warden and State Forest Ranger

To aid your Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department and State Forest Ranger, contact your local Warden or Fire Department to find out if a permit is required before doing **ANY** outside burning. Violations of RSA 227-L:17, the fire permit law and the other burning laws of the State of New Hampshire are misdemeanors punishable by fines of up to \$2,000.00 and/or a year in jail. Violators are also liable for all fire suppression costs.

There are ten Forest Rangers who work for the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands, Forest Protection Bureau. State Forest Rangers are available to assist communities with forest fire suppression, prevention and training programs as well as the enforcement of forest fire and timber harvest laws. If you have any questions regarding forest fire or timber harvest laws, please call our office at 271-2217.

There are 2400 Forest Fire Wardens and Deputy Forest Fire Wardens throughout the state. Each town has a Forest Fire Warden and several Deputy Wardens who assist the Forest Rangers with forest fire suppression, prevention, and law enforcement. Early in 1998 we experienced an ice storm, which caused severe damage to forests of New Hampshire. This damage created a greater potential fire hazard as well as safety hazards to many areas of the state. Your local fire warden and Forest Rangers need your assistance or information dealing with ice damaged woodlands, please call 1-800-444-8978.

The State of New Hampshire operates 15 fire towers, 2 mobile patrols and 3 contract aircraft patrols. This early detection and reports from citizens aid in the quick response from local fire departments. This is a critical factor in controlling the size of wildland fires and keeping the loss of property and suppression costs as low as possible.

1998 FIRE STATISTICS

(All Fires Reported through December 23, 1998)

FIRES REPORTED BY COUNTY

Belknap	44
Carroll	89
Cheshire	67
Coos	18
Grafton	43
Hillsborough	232
Merrimack	108
Rockingham	121
Strafford	64
Sullivan	12

TOTAL FIRES	798
TOTAL ACRES	442.86

CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED

Smoking	59
Debris Burning	38
Campfire	29
Power Line	14
Railroad	9
Equipment Use	24
Lightning	16
Children	95
OHRV	6
Miscellaneous	53
Unknown	140
Fireworks	6
Arson/Suspicious	16
Illegal	231
Rekindle	43
Disposal of Ashes	19

Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission has a wide range of services and resources available to help the dues-paying members deal with a variety of municipal issues. Technical assistance is provided by a professional staff whose expertise is, when necessary, supplemented by consultants who are selected for their specialized skills or services. Each year, with the approval of your appointed representatives, the Commission staff designs and carries out programs of area-wide significance that are mandated under New Hampshire and federal laws or regulations, as well as local or site-specific projects which would pertain more exclusively to your community.

Technical assistance is provided in a professional and timely manner by staff at the request of your Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen. The Commission conducts planning studies and carries out projects that are of common interest and benefit to all member communities, keeps your officials apprised of changes in planning and land use regulation, and offers training workshops for Planning and Zoning Board members on an annual basis.

Services that were performed for the Town of Chester during the past year are as follows:

1. Co-sponsored the Municipal Law Lecture series. These meetings were attended by Chester officials.
2. Conducted traffic counts at eleven locations in the Town of Chester. Data was forwarded to the Chair of the Planning Board.
3. The Regional Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program FY 1999-2001 have been prepared. Copies were forwarded to the Planning Board and the Public Library.
4. Provided a video entitled "RSA 155-E: Earth Excavations" for the use of the Planning Board.
5. Provided suggested amendments to the Town's Subdivision and Site Plan Regulations in an effort to implement the Erosion and Sediment Control provisions of the Model Regulation.
6. Provided two copies of composite tax maps to the Chester Board of Selectmen.
7. Provided a colored map, showing the Town's natural, cultural and historical resources, to the Conservation Commission.

Chester's Representatives to the Commission are:

Albert W. Hamel

Andrew L. Hadik

Executive Committee Member: Albert W. Hamel, Vice Chairman

Chester Conservation Commission

The Chester Conservation Commission is a seven-member board appointed by the Selectmen under the provisions of New Hampshire State law to oversee conservation-related matters in the town. The Conservation Commission is active in reviewing subdivision plans for their impact on wetlands, rivers, ponds, surface waters and groundwater. The Commission is pro-active on preserving open space, educating the public on conservation issues, and generally acting for the community's behalf.

The Conservation Commission meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00PM in Town Hall, and public input is always encouraged.

Land Use Change Tax: At the 1997 Town Meeting the voters established a **Conservation Fund** by setting aside up to a maximum of \$20,000 each year from the **Land Use Change Tax** revenues. The warrant article also allowed for the establishment of a **Strategic Land Protection Committee (SLPC)** to recommend and determine the best use of such funds to help control the growth rate and property tax rate of the town. Anyone interested in obtaining a Conservation Easement on property or for other permanent protection should contact the Office of Selectmen or a member of the SLPC. If approved by the SLPC and the Selectmen, property owners would not have to pay for any of the costs associated with the placement of the easement.!

Everyone who pays property taxes in town has felt the economic impact from the current development and growth rate of Chester. The State of New Hampshire's regulations have prevented small towns like Chester from regulating their own growth, forcing the current residents to face the financial hardships that result. This year the Conservation Commission supports the Selectmen's Warrant Article to eliminate the \$20,000 maximum cap on the Land Use Change Tax – Conservation Fund and allow additional funds to be available for the town to obtain development rights or purchase strategic parcels of land.

The following is an actual recent land sale in Chester and a scenario of what could have been accomplished with some strategic planning

attached to a funding mechanism to support opportunities when they present themselves. A 40-acre parcel of land including an old farmhouse with horse barn located on Chester's only designated "Scenic Road" sold to a developer for \$255,000. The developer's plan submitted to the Planning Board has the parcel being subdivided into 10 additional house lots. The existing farmhouse and barn have been sub-divided out on 5 acres of land and are listed (at the time of this report) at \$225,000. The 10 additional house lot sub-division could result in a net increase of over \$50,000 dollars per year added to the property tax bills as a result of the education cost for the children in those homes. If funding had been available, the Town could have purchased the total 40 acres and buildings, placed a Conservation Easement on the back acreage, and re-sold the total property back to a buyer for \$255,000. The net cost to the town would have been the real estate transaction costs only. The Town's net gain would have been the preservation of a section of a "scenic road", approximately 40 acres of open fields and woodlands, plus a cost avoidance to the taxpayers of \$50,000 per year from additional taxes. The Conservation Commission supports the Selectmen's proactive approach in preserving Chester's scenic rural character while reducing the future tax burden for everyone in the town.

Town Forest Management Project: The Conservation Commission is currently assisting the Selectmen's Office in the timber operations planned for the Town Forest located between Lane Road and North Pond Road. The Town will use the proceeds from the timber sales to help develop a Forest Management Plan for all sizable remaining Town owned parcels of land and to possibly help develop a trail system for residents to enjoy. The plan requires the use of a "Licensed Forester" to ensure that the best management procedures are utilized.

Exeter River Watershed Project: The Exeter River officially begins its existence as a small stream where it passes under Route 102 in Chester. As the "source" of the river, Chester plays an important role in its quality. Members of the Conservation Commission are active in the current "Exeter River Watershed Project" and one member of the Commission serves on its oversight committee. One hundred dollars has been budgeted as Chester's portion towards the management of the project.

Spring Hill Farm Conservation Area: Miss Church, retired school teacher and resident of Chester for over 80 years, donated her entire 400 acre farm to the Town of Chester three years ago with only one stipulation - that it

never be developed and forever remain as farmland and open space for the benefit and enjoyment of the residents of Chester. The generous donation of her farm has already resulted in tens, if not hundreds, of thousands of dollars saved as opposed to the guaranteed tax increases that would have resulted from the farm being sub-divided into house lots. The Conservation Commission continues to work with the Selectmen's Office and "Spring Hill Farm Trustees" to oversee the property.

Relocation Plan: The Conservation Commission has included in its "Miscellaneous Operating Budget" \$750 for possible relocation cost associated with the possible utilization of the old school as office space (Chairs, desk, file cabinets, etc.), and \$250 for its normal operating budget.

1999-2000 Proposed Budget:

Dues including The NH Assoc. of Conservation Commissions	= \$ 250.00
Misc. Operating Budget (Includes possible office equipment)	= \$1,000.00
Exeter River Watershed Project	= <u>\$ 100.00</u>
TOTAL	= \$1,350.00

Town Forest Management -Estimated Expenses = \$ 3,200.00
 Estimated Revenue = \$10,000.00

Respectfully submitted,

Chester Conservation Commission

Brad Wamsley, Chairperson

Greg Lowell, Recording Officer

Catherine Arakelian

David Hardy

Maureen Lein

Chuck Myette

Camilla Lockwood, Planning Board Representative

Charlotte Lister, Selectperson Representative

Report of the Exeter River Local Advisory Committee

In August of 1995, The Exeter River was designated for protection under the New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Act (RSA 483). Under the terms of the designation, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services, acting on recommendations from Select Boards, appointed residents from each of the communities along the river to serve as members of the Exeter River Local Advisory Committee.

Chester is home to the headwaters of the Exeter. The river then it flows to Sandown, Danville, Fremont, back through Chester, then on through Raymond, Fremont, and Brentwood, to the Great Falls at Exeter. There, the river becomes tidal and is known as the Squamscott which flows into Great Bay.

The Exeter River is the chief water supply for the Town of Exeter. Its watershed (approximately 125 square miles) is a recharge area for wells along its entire 32 mile length.

This year, the Local Advisory Committee has completed its work developing a management plan for the river corridor. Designed to assure protection and enhancement of water quality, wildlife, scenic and recreation uses, and preservation of historic and cultural values, this plan was presented to the public and the Planning Board on April 7, 1999. A questionnaire mailed to all (750+) landowners along the river resulted in a 30% response reflecting concern for these values.

The Committee has been fortunate to work as a partner in the Exeter River Watershed Project (the Project), which is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency. Work has been performed by The Audubon Society of New Hampshire, the University of New Hampshire, and the Rockingham Planning Commission, with strong support from New Hampshire Fish and Game, the Office of State Planning, the Department of Environmental Services and the Rockingham Conservation District, bringing together the technology and information to create a sound plan for the river's resources in the future.

On April 21, the Project conducted a Land Protection and Estate Planning Workshop for area residents. Hosted by the Committee for Strategic Land Protection the program explained to landowners and

others the value of protecting open space; methods for doing so, including conservation easements; and the tax and estate benefits of land protection.

Seniors from the College of Life Sciences and Agriculture at the University of New Hampshire continue to work on “Exeter River Buffer Analyses” as part of their course work. They have studied and prepared documents and photographs of the conditions along the river in five mile segments in Brentwood, Chester and Fremont and will be working this year in Exeter. Their analyses include wildlife habitat, topography, plant life, and possible sources of pollution, creating a baseline for future study. This year we are working with Beth Malcolm of the Department of Environmental Services, who is directing the Volunteer River Assessment Program (VRAP). Volunteers are learn how to do water tests in order to monitor water quality at various intervals along the river. Anyone interested in participating should call Beth at 271-2083. Students are welcome.

The University of New Hampshire has prepared a set of Geographic Information System (GIS) maps of the river corridor. Maps include Surface Water, Lands of Special Importance: such as, habitat of rare plants and animals, historic sites, prime farmland, and other important data which can help the Committee suggest protection techniques for our sensitive river areas.

Guests are always welcome, and Chester has room for two more members. If you would like to visit and see what is happening with “your river”, the Exeter River Local Advisory Committee meets at 7:00 PM on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the County Commissioners’ Office at the county complex in Brentwood. For more information, contact Camilla Lockwood at 887-3271.

Respectfully submitted,
Camilla C. Lockwood, Vice Chair
Exeter River Local Advisory Committee

Chester Recreation Commission Report - 1998

The all-volunteer Recreation Commission for the Town of Chester, which oversees the Recreation & Parks budget, serves the recreational needs of the town by maintaining and improving the town's primary recreational area - the French and Nichols fields, coordinating recreational agreements with the Town of Derry and the Derry Soccer Club which allow Chester children to participate in basketball and soccer activities, sponsoring its own basketball and volleyball programs, and running a 6-week Summer Program for over 100 Chester children.

1998 Report:

Summer Program: Over 100 Chester children participated in the 6-week summer program that began the first week of July. Qualified counselors and assistants led Chester children ages 6 to 12 in games and activities and took them on field trips. This program will be repeated again this year. Sign-up sheets will be distributed at the school or you may contact this commission. No child will be turned away from any of these programs for financial reasons. If the fee is a hardship, please speak privately to one of the Recreation Commission members.

Facilities Improvement: Fencing was installed around the perimeter of the 60-foot diamond for purposes of safety and to prevent balls from rolling over the embankment. A 4-foot fence surrounds most of the field except for the north side of the field where it transitions into an 8-foot fence that serves two purposes: it creates an outfield boundary fence for the adjoining 90-foot diamond and partially protects players on the upper soccer field from stray balls. The cost of the fencing was split with the Chester Baseball Association.

Basketball Program: Limited programs for boys and girls are available. An instructional league is held on Saturdays and a competitive league is also available. The Derry Recreation Basketball League is also open to Chester children, ages 5-18.

Derry-Chester Leagues: In addition to our own programs, Chester children may play basketball in the Derry Recreational League on Saturday and soccer with the independent Derry Soccer Club. Sign-up notices appear regularly in the Derry News.

1999 Plans/Comments:

Budget: The budget this year has increased substantially with most of the increase due to the Multipurpose Room at the old school now being under our auspices beginning in September. We have great plans for

the facility that will include both youth and adult activities; however, these activities come with a cost. We have allocated \$1000 for the purchase of equipment such as basketballs, volleyballs, indoor soccer goals, volleyball nets, etc. We have also budgeted a \$2520 increase in salaries to pay for supervision for planned youth activities during the three school breaks when we hope to run open gym and leagues. As a contingency, \$3000 was budgeted to cover cleaning costs of the facility. The Multipurpose Room will need regular cleaning and the floor will have to be stripped and waxed at least once a year. At the time of the budget, we do not know how the Town intends to provide custodial service to the building and so allocated this money.

The rest of the biggest budget item (salaries) goes for the Summer Program, which does require fees from participants that help defray our budget. Last year approximately \$2000 was returned to the town General Fund and a similar sum is expected this year.

Future Plans: The addition of the Multipurpose Room to our commission's responsibilities should substantially increase the recreation activities for the town. Use of the building in the past was limited by school activities, but now the use of the room is limited only by the imagination of the citizens. If anybody would like to submit ideas for youth and adult activities, please feel free to call any of the commission members or attend our public meetings (which are advertised on CTV-51). We would also like to consider building an additional field behind the old school. Even with the new softball field at the new school, we still anticipate scheduling difficulties for T-ball, baseball, and softball during the busy spring/summer season. Building an all-purpose field behind the old school would mean we would likely not be taking advantage of Miss Church's generous offer to build a field off Shepherd Home Road, simply because a field at the old school would be cheaper to build, be more accessible for the majority of residents, and offer better parking.

Field Rules and Regulations: Since this report is our primary means of communicating with the town, we repeat here every year the rules governing usage of the town fields (as spelled out in the Town Master Plan). Priorities for field usage are set as follows (1 is highest priority): (1) Chester School athletic events, (2) Chester Baseball Program or Recreation Commission-sanctioned activities, (3) All other activities (scheduled or unscheduled). Scheduling of the fields for other events, such as church picnics, field days, soccer leagues, or other school usage must be made through the Rec. Commission by contacting Town Hall.

Reminder: There are no horses, motorized vehicles, or GOLF allowed on the fields. (And you might police your dogs a bit as well.)

As always, we continue to look to the town for guidance and suggestions.

Chester Recreation Commission Members

Greg Lowell
Linda Royce
Debbie Burke
Bob Henderson
Charlie Needham

Chester Community Food Pantry

The Chester Community Food Pantry is jointly run by the Chester Congregational-Baptist Church and St. Jerome's Mission. Our purpose is to provide food for any Chester family who finds they are in need of our service. Our families are referred to us by Town Officials, the local elementary school, both Churches and the Community Action Office. The Food Pantry has been operating since 1982 through the monetary support of individuals, local area clubs and businesses. Annual food drives by the Boy Scouts, rural mail carriers and school families keep the shelves well stocked. The Library also helps by periodically requesting food instead of fines for overdue books.

Boxes of holiday foods are prepared for families at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Christmas presents donated by members from both Churches are also included. When possible Gift Certificates for each family are included.

Jeanne Jenkins, who can be reached at 887-3793, is presently in charge of the Chester Community Food Pantry and is assisted by Ellen DePalma of St. Jerome's Mission. Information can be obtained by calling the Church Office at 887-4799.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeanne Jenkins

Report of the Recycling/Solid Waste Committee

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Tommy Wilson the Town now has a “Swap Shop” building for items that you think someone else might be able to use and you don’t want to just throw away. This was an Eagle Scout project for Tom, who not only planned and coordinated the construction of the building but also negotiated for lower rates for lumber, and even arranged to get some shingles and other supplies donated. We are very grateful for the efforts of Tom and his fellow scouts of Chester Boy Scout Troop 163. They are currently working on the finishing touches, and the building should be in use by the time this report is printed. Please note the following rules for the Swap Shop:

- Mechanical or electronic equipment must be in working condition
- No cracked or chipped glass or crockery
- Books must have intact bindings
- No clothing - bring to local clothing drop-off bins
- No liquids such as paints, stains, or chemicals
- Items should only be deposited if shelf space available

There is also a bulletin board on the outside of the building for posting notices about larger FREE items.

Our hosting of the Household Hazardous Waste Collection was very successful, with good participation from Chester and from other participating towns. This year’s collection will be hosted by another town sometime in September. Watch local newspapers, Channel 51, and the town sign for an announcement of the date and location.

We continue to strive to increase our recycling. We recycled 306 tons in the past year that would otherwise have gone into the waste stream, for a savings to the Town of approximately \$13,000. Chester’s recycling rate is currently at 29%, which is well above the national average of 21.4%. However, this is a 2% decrease in our recycling from last year. We need to stay cognizant of our need to recycle. Our goal is to increase, not decrease, our recycling and we are concerned about this reversal, particularly considering the fact that we are looking at a potential 40% increase in tipping costs when our current disposal contract expires next April. Due to this significant increase in future costs, the committee will be reviewing other disposal options in the upcoming year, such as “pay-per-throw” in order to find a way to help mitigate the cost to taxpayers. We expect to present these options to the public sometime next spring. If you have any

questions or practical suggestions for our recycling program, please feel free to contact any of us.

Important note: Effective July 1, 1999, ONLY clear and non-opaque (see-thru) bags will be accepted for disposal. After that date black and other opaque bags will be turned away. This includes customers of curbside-pickup operators who haul to the Town facility. Due to the success of the "summer hours," the Selectmen are budgeting for this again. In addition to our regular Saturday hours, the transfer station will be open Wednesday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. from May 19 through September 29. Depending upon approval of the Sanitation budget at Town Meeting, we may add Wednesday evening hours on a year-round basis.

As always, if you have any ideas or are interested in getting involved, we would like to hear from you.

Committee Members:

Anne Pardo, Chair and Secretary

Paula Potter, Vice Chair

Charles Myette

J.R. Stephens

Lloyd Healey

Bonnie Healey

Andrew Hadik, Selectman Liaison

Cable Report - Channel 51

This past year has seen many exciting moments, as well as some changes for Channel 51.

Last winter, our program director Ron Bath, who had been a volunteer at Channel 51 for many years moved out of town. Employed as a professional video newsman with a major broadcast television station, Ron brought a level of expertise to our studio which we will miss. However, our present core group, which consists of Hillary Hall, Dave and Eileen Hardy, Dick and Marge Godfrey, Ellen Boda, and R.D. Tilroe (from White Pines College), has picked up the ball and really run with it.

As in the past, we offer diversified programming, which is made available to the cable viewers of our community. From live broadcasts of Selectmen's and Town Meetings, to our ever popular cooking show which features Hillary's kitchen magic, to broadcasts relating to elder planning issues, there is always something interesting to watch on Channel 51.

This year also saw the introduction of a new sports show, "Calling all Sports" which is hosted by Tim Costine.

We also anticipate in the future, seeing more taped programming, which will be made available to us through our affiliation with other towns and their cable stations. In addition, our continuing involvement with White Pines College has served to enrich our programming even that much further. And of course lest we not forget "Santa's Ride". which has also practically become an institution in Chester, too!

This past year our station became affiliated with The New Hampshire Coalition for Community Media. This is a nonprofit group which consists of local access providers as well as concerned citizens. The group was founded to promote and support community access television in New Hampshire. Our volunteers have all been very active in this organization. Their attendance at these meetings has provided us with valuable information, such as that which concerns community cable provider contract re-negotiations. This is an important upcoming matter, which Chester will be dealing with in a few years.

We have also been working very closely with the Chester School Building Committee to coordinate the installation of video, microphone, and cable wiring and equipment throughout our new school. We envision for the future, not only providing live broadcasts of Town Meeting, but also productions such as plays and other school events, possibly even dances, that can be produced and directed by students as well.

Last year our group discussed purchasing a new computer to provide an enhanced version of the community calendar. We also considered acquiring some other additional pieces of equipment. After exploring our options, we decided that it would not be necessary to make some of these purchases at this time. Therefore with the wrap up of our fiscal year, we will be returning a substantial portion of last year's budget to the general fund. We hope that perhaps this may be put to good use by other needed town agencies next year.

As I've mentioned each year that I've been asked to contribute this report, Channel 51 is not "our" station. It is your station. So be involved! Give us your tapes. We'll endeavor to implement them. But most of all give us your time, and your energy. We'll appreciate it very much, and you'll feel a sense of satisfaction too, in knowing that the programming that your friends and neighbors are watching has happened, in some part through your efforts.

So give us a call at 887-2288. We would love to hear from you!

Respectfully submitted,
Leonard M. Stein, Acting Chairman

Report of Sexual Assault Support Services

Sexual Assault Support Services is dedicated to supporting victims/survivors in their effort to heal from the trauma of sexual assault and childhood sexual abuse, while striving to prevent the occurrence of sexual violence in local communities and in society at large.

This mission is accomplished by providing the following services:

- toll-free confidential 24 hour crisis intervention hotline 1-(888)-747-7070;
- outreach office for Strafford County located in Rochester at One Wakefield Street (332-0775);
- accompaniment to medical and legal (police and court) appointments;
- information and referral to related services such as attorneys and therapists;
- support groups for survivors, their parents and partners;
- child sexual assault prevention education programs in area schools, recreation programs, camps and scouts;
- adolescent workshops on sexual harassment and sexual assault;
- professional training and consultation to police departments, hospital and school personnel and human service agencies;
- sexual harassment in the workplace workshops to municipalities and businesses.

Our program is committed to providing support, education and advocacy to all survivors of sexual assault and sexual abuse and their parents, partners and other community members.

The primary objectives of Sexual Assault Support Services are to empower survivors and to support them in their healing process and to educate the community, heightening awareness of sexual assault and its prevention. We provide prevention programs throughout the school system in order to broaden awareness among students, teachers and the community of the issues of sexual assault and harassment. In addition, our staff coordinates with police departments and hospital staff to improve response to sexual assault cases and to assure a supportive environment for the survivors.

Sexual Assault Support Services has provided services for 20 years. Volunteers are welcome and are utilized in all aspects of the program.

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Stradling
Executive Director

Sexual Assault Support Services
7 Junkins Ave
Portsmouth, NH 03801
(603) 436-4107

EMERGENCY SERVICES

FIRE: Emergency # 911

887-3878

Non-Emergency (Fire House)

Permits required for all open fires. Arrangements for permits may be obtained by calling:

Bruce McLaughlin

Stephen Tunberg

Scott St. Clair

Steven Childs

887-4626

887-5790

887-4556

887-4558

MEDICAL

Derry Area Ambulance Service: 911

Parkland Medical Center: 432-1500

Poison Center, Mary Hitchcock Hospital, Hanover, NH: 643-4000

Rockingham Visiting Nurse Association: 432-7776

TOWN FACILITIES

Recycling/Transfer Station, Route 102

Saturdays 7 a.m.-2 p.m.; Wednesday Evenings - to be announced

LIBRARY

Phone 887-3404

Mon 6 p.m.-9 p.m.; Tues 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Wed 6 p.m.-9 p.m.; Thurs 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Fri 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (During school sessions)

Closed Saturdays in July & August

CHURCH SERVICES

Chester Congregational Baptist Church, 4 Chester Street

Sunday School 9:15 a.m. - Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

St. Jerome's Mission at Chester Congregational Baptist Church

Lord's Day Mass - Saturday 5:45 p.m.

Fellowship Bible Church, Rod and Gun Club Road

Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. - Evening Service 6:00 p.m. - Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

MEETINGS/OFFICE HOURS

(Town Hall Closed When School is Canceled Due to Snow
and for State of New Hampshire Holidays)

Selectmen Meetings: Monday Nights (As Posted) - 7 p.m. at Town Hall

Please call 887-4979 for an appt., Office open Mon - Fri 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Town Clerk & Tax Collector - Mon, Wed, & Fri: 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.;

Tues 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Phone 887-3636

Fire Meeting - 1st Tuesday of the month; Firehouse

Zoning Board of Adjustment - 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Office Hours: Mon and Thurs (after 7/1) - 10 a.m.-12 noon. Phone 887-5629

Planning Board - 1st, 2nd, and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Office Hours: Tues 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wed and Thurs 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Phone 887-5629

Building Inspector/Zoning Office - Office behind Post Office

Office Hours: Mon and Wed - 8 a.m.-12 noon; Fri 10:30 a.m.- 12 noon

Field inspections conducted after 12 noon. Phone 887-5552

Office of the Selectmen
Chester, NH 03036

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